The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1887.

The Week.

THE unanimity with which the Senate Fishery Bill was passed, and the indifference with which it has been received by the country, betoken anything rather than war. There is perhaps some party politics behind the curtain. The Democrats must not allow the Republicans to pose as the sole defenders of the country's honor against foreign aggression. Without reference to the merits of the bill, they must forestall any imputation of want of patriotism. This can be easily managed because the execution of it is in the hands of a Democratic Administration. The bill provides that the President may suspend commercial intercourse with Canada, more or less, whenever our fishing rights, under the Treaty of 1818, have been wantonly infringed. This is a grant of power to the President of a very extraordinary kind —no less, in fact, than the power to ruin thousands of American merchants. No such power would have been granted by the Republicans without a political end in view. This end obviously is to catch the President and his party on one or the other horn of a dilemma. If he does not exercise the power conferred upon him, it will be said that he has come short of a patriotic duty. If he does exercise it, more or less suffering will ensue on our own side of the border, and for this he will be held responsible.

The responsibility for suspending trade relations ought never to be surrendered by the legislative power. At the time when Napoleon Bonaparte was issuing his Berlin and Milan decrees, and the British Ministry their Orders in Council, the Congress of the United States passed the Embargo and Non-Intercourse Acts, decreeing in fixed terms the suspension of commerce with the offending Powers, and giving the President power merely to relax the operation of the acts when one or the other of the offenders should desist from the injustice complained of. The embargo and non-intercourse acts were total failures in practice. Yet Congress preserved its dignity and its prerogatives by keeping within its own hands the power to close the ports of the United States, giving to the President the discretion merely to open them in certain specified contingencies. In the present case the power of closing and opening is surrendered to the President in a spirit of gush which is open to strong suspicion. When Senator Frye utters such fulsome praise of the President as is found in the recent Senate debate, it is well to inquire what it signifies. In our judgment it means that Mr. Frye wants him to make a liberal use of the dangerous power conferred upon him. It may do his Administration some harm. It can do him no good unless the provocation offered by the Canadians is more extreme than anything yet offered, for if a justifiable case for non-intercourse exists now, it is the bounden duty of Congress to declare and enforce it, and not leave it to the discretion of the Executive.

Some very instructive figures are supplied by *Bradstreet's* as to the comparative dimensions and importance of the fish trade between Canada and the United States and the aggregate trade of all kinds between the same countries. Some of the details are curious. It is singular to find that all the row with Canada relates to $1,105,382 worth of fish, that being the amount of dutiable fish imported in the year 1886, after the Washington Treaty had been repealed. In the year 1884, while the treaty was still in force, the whole amount of fish imported from the British provinces was of the value of $3,873,799, but of this amount about $1,500,000 worth was fresh fish not dutiable under our general tariff. So it would seem that not above $2,300,000 worth of dutiable fish was imported in a good fishing year. Since the repeal of the treaty the total importation has fallen off, a result which may be due in part to the reimposition of duties on salt fish and in part to a decline in the catch, but most largely, we presume, to the former of these causes. The next fact, not commonly understood, is, that Canada bought fish of us to the amount of $213,794 in the year 1886, reducing our net importation of fish, both free and dutiable, for that year to $1,963,000, or of dutiable only to $892,000. Another fact is, that our importation of hens' eggs from Canada exceeds our importation of dutiable fish by nearly $800,000, and nearly equals our importation of all kinds of fish, both free and dutiable. Lumber imports exceed those of fish of all kinds in the ratio of three and a half to one. Barley stands in the same ratio. In the total import trade, fish constitutes 5.8 per cent., and in the aggregate import and export trade about 2 per cent. It is the other 98 per cent. that the Retaliation Bill proposes to cut off, or authorize the President to cut off at his own discretion.

The present strike of coal-heavers, 'longshoremen, and the like in this city is superintended, if not set on foot, by a certain James E. Quinn, who has never had anything to do with coal-heaving or freight-handling in his life, but, when he had a regular calling, was a bookbinder. He is now pursuing the much more exciting and profitable business of Master Workman of District Assembly 49. His work now consists in negotiating as commander of an army with steamship proprietors and coal companies the terms on which he will allow them to carry on their business. He made a speech last week at the Cooper Union, in which he revealed the kind of dream which is filling the heads to-day of the labor agitators all over the country. He said:

"There is more in the cause of the workingman than the brains of the politician can understand. We propose that our organization shall get to that point where it will dominate all the institutions of this country. The question is not of any one particular organization. The question is of the protection of all classes of labor. We have many difficulties before us, but remember when the night seems darkest we are nearest to the rising of the sun."

Supposing District Assembly 49, for instance, "dominated" this city, it is easy to see what a personage Quinn would be. We should have to go to him for permits to put coal in our cellars, and have our butchers and bakers assigned to us on the first of each month. Supposing the General Assembly of the Knights "dominated all our institutions," of course the Master Workmen would be the "biggest men" the world has yet seen. The Venetian Council of Ten would be small potatoes compared to them. They would wield power such as only single despots have hitherto ever been able to get hold of. Who would be a plumber, or bookbinder, or 'longshoreman, or freight-handler, one minute after he saw within his reach even a distant approach to such eminence? We need hardly say that Quinn has long been an agitator, and was, in the Greenback days, a clamorous Greenbacker, or, in other words, was for "Government money" to be distributed to the people without the intervention of those odious institutions the banks.

What most interests the sober, sensible, and industrious people of the country is not what the Quinns are aiming at, but how long their ambition is to be fostered and their attempts to "dominate" by disturbing industry are to be encouraged by the politicians of both parties. This encouragement, of course, is mainly given by the refusal of governors, mayors, sheriffs, and the like to protect non-union men from violence when seeking work, and to protect the premises of employers against damage at the hands of strikers or by the slowness and feebleness of such attempts as they make to protect them. But it is also given most effectively by gross flattery of "Labor" in speeches and messages; by the pretence of a profound conviction of the power of Labor, and of the right of Labor (if this were an age of pure justice) to seize and consume every form of wealth; by professions of belief in and respect for all the labor platitudes and fallacies and follies, and by charlatanic recommendations that they should be embodied in legislation; and, though last not least, by attempts to embody them in bills drafted by the Quinns and Donnellys, in order to enable these worthies to keep their hold on their followers, and make the triumph of Labor and the appearance of dog-carts and coupés to take Labor to the Park in the afternoons seem near at hand. This most mischievous and shameful branch of the "labor movement" nothing will check or suppress except punishment at the polls. Nothing will ever cause the Hills and Greens and Orestes Clevelands to speak soberly and truthfully about labor, and do their duty to the peaceable and industrious, except their discovery that they will lose more votes than they gain by not doing so. They will probably find this out by and by, when the excesses and disturbances of Labor have made sufficient impression on the public to detach a considerable body of the voters from the old parties, in order to look after the primary interests of society, or, in other words, to provide for peace and security.

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Whatever may be the magnitude reached by the coal strike, and however great the inconveniences it may entail, employers may as well make up their minds that they must resist it to the last. The coal strike has lost already, as the Southwestern railroad strike soon lost, the character of a dispute between a certain class of laborers and their employers. It has become, as the Southwestern strike rapidly became, an attempt to establish the power of the organization of Knights over trade and industry. If they find that by stopping or greatly diminishing the supply of coal or of any other commodity, for a short period, at this season of the year, they can bring employers to their terms, it is just as certain as the rising of the sun that they would repeat the process every winter and increase their exactions. In other words, the vast body of savings now accumulated at this point and invested in manufactures and shipping would pass out of the control of the owners, and into that of a body as irresponsible and unscrupulous as a party of Mexican bandits. Consequently the very cheapest and safest thing employers can do is to resist now. They must not forget, too, that in yielding to the demands of the Knights on an occasion of this kind they would not be yielding to the opinions or wishes of 17,000, or 40,000, or whatever the number may be, workingmen. They would be yielding to the threats of a small knot or junta of adventurers without character, or credit, or education, who control the organization without consulting their followers, and who, of course, enjoy the power and importance which their control of it gives them, and the money it puts in their pockets. To yield anything to these people is a crime against every honest and industrious man in the community. If it were gravely proposed to us to hand over to two dozen of the most upright, able, and illustrious men on earth the power to block the channels of trade and industry in this city at midwinter for any reason which to them seemed good, we should all say that we would die or emigrate sooner than submit to a despotism so odious. Well, we are threatened at this moment with something far worse, namely, the despotism of a small committee of conspirators whom no respectable business man would wish to take into partnership, or intrust with money or goods, or employ in any place of trust or responsibility, and who have never given any proof of capacity in any honorable and lawful calling, and whose names are not known outside the halls in which they meet to plan their attacks on society.

The *Times* suggests, as a very proper piece of labor legislation, a "bill to secure the punishment of the rascals who instigate hopeless strikes for the purpose of swindling the strikers and payers of assessments." There is no doubt that legislation in this direction is sorely needed, and ought to be pushed both by the real friends of Labor in the interest of humanity and by the pseudo-friends of Labor for the sake of consistency. It is only the outside of these great strikes—owing to the disorders they cause in the streets, and the disturbance and loss they inflict on industry—which attracts the attention of the general public. But the inside history of them is most pitiful. In all of them large sums of money are collected by a little committee of managers, not one of whom is probably worth a cent, or follows any regular calling, or has any credit. They render no account of it to anybody, and dole it out in such amounts as they please, for as long as they please, to the strikers, who are mostly poor, ignorant, and cowed men. That a very large part of it goes into the pockets of these managers, there is no reasonable doubt. In other words, every strike is honeycombed with fraud of the basest kind. After the Third Avenue strike, the scamps who engineered it went about showing sheafs of bank-bills in the most brazen way. In pocketing a good deal of the money, too, the managers are no worse than other men. It is what nearly all needy men do who get hold of the money of poor, ignorant people, and are not obliged to tell what they do with it. As we know from the melancholy story of Archbishop Purcell, even high dignitaries of the Church cannot be trusted under these circumstances. He spent the money of the poor intrusted to him in the way nearest his heart—in building churches. The Master Workmen and Walking Delegates probably spent it in the way nearest their hearts—that is, on themselves.

Now, we are strongly in favor of all labor legislation which is likely to promote the workingman's self-reliance, and cultivate his judgment and discretion, and are strongly opposed to all legislation which fosters the habit of blaming some one else for his misfortunes, and looking to somebody else for relief for his burdens, and of considering himself as the ward of the State. Most of the legislation "demanded" or proposed by him and his friends is extremely childish, and, if carried out, would soon make him as helpless as the Paraguayan Indians when the Jesuits had charge of them, and flogged them when they got drunk or came too late to their work in the morning. We desire to see this republic remain a republic of men and women, and not become a community of squalling children, ruled by a lot of knavish taskmasters and inspectors. But if any legislation for the protection of the laborer against the consequences of his own ignorance and helplessness, and against the greed or indifference of others, such as the labor reformers are constantly asking for, be proper or desirable, then assuredly we ought to have legislation for the regulation of these strikes. We therefore 'demand" a law, on the laborers' behalf, which shall either compel persons collecting money during strikes, in the shape of "assessments" for the benefit of the strikers, to publish daily audited accounts of the same, showing the source of the receipts, and the nature and object of the disbursements, or else provide a simple and cheap legal process by which they can, on the application of any contributor to the fund, be hauled into court on short notice, and compelled to show their books and vouchers. We know of no piece of labor legislation for which there is at this moment more pressing need. The evil it would attack is growing rapidly. The appetite for assessments on the part of the managers is probably the most potent cause of the increasing frequency of the great strikes.

The attempted destruction of the Old Dominion steamship *Guyandotte* by some kind of infernal contrivance recalls the desperate villanies of Martin Irons's men in the Southwest, when they found, to their infinite surprise, that the great world was moving on without them. They had argued themselves into the belief that they were the government of three or four States, and that they had only to set the brakes on railroad traffic to bring everybody in the attitude of petitioners to them, humbly asking of them the terms upon which society might be allowed to exist; they being, in fact, less than 5,000 persons all told, in a community of more than 5,000,000. When the truth dawned upon them that the earth was turning on its axis very much in the old way, in spite of all their efforts to hold it, their wrath was naturally kindled, and they declared war upon society. This is no figure of speech. The Adjutant-General of Kansas testified before the Congressional Committee that at Parsons, "Buchanan, the local leader of the Knights, took the position, and another gentleman, by the name of Hollis, who was present at that time, that they were entitled to the *rights of belligerents*; that it was justifiable revolution. Mr. Buchanan went so far as to bring his dictionary to show me the distinction between revolution and rebellion, and argued it at some length." Irons testified that he considered the strike an act of war, qualifying the remark by saying that it was so considered "by the property-owners also." At first the Knights denied that the acts of violence were sanctioned by the Order, but it was proved that the Master Workman of the local Assembly at Fort Worth commanded the party that fired on the train from ambush, when three deputy sheriffs were shot. It was proved also that the wrecking of the train at Wyandotte, where two men were killed, was planned in the Knights of Labor meeting-room in Kansas City, and that the wrecking party was headed by the leader of the local Assembly. Before the investigation was concluded, all pretence that the killing and maiming were done without the authority of the organization was abandoned, a moral sanction for those acts being sought for under the "war powers" of the Order.

The paper presented by the "Bartholdi Association Executive Committee" to the receivers of the Central Railroad of New Jersey exceeds in impudence anything recorded in the annals of Labor in the Eastern States, although it may be matched by the initial steps of the strike on the Missouri Pacific last year. In the latter case the strike was ordered without any notice at all. In the New Jersey Central case, four hours was allowed to the receivers to determine whether they would yield to twenty-three different demands, including two that could not be conceded because they were outside the jurisdiction and beyond the power of the receivers. One of these was a declaration that the freight-handlers of the road would not

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handle any freight that had been previously handled by non-union men. This declaration, which was tantamount to a demand that the railroad should not carry any freight that had been handled by non-union men, is made in the teeth of the Inter-State Commerce Bill just passed by Congress, which prohibits, under severe penalties, any discrimination whatever between persons in the transportation of property. Such discrimination is prohibited by the common law, but now we have, if the President signs the bill, a statutory provision which would subject the receivers to a fine of $5,000 each, besides damages to the injured party, if they should accede to the demand of the "Bartholdi Association Executive Committee," and refuse to receive freight that had been handled by non-union men. It is perfectly plain that the demands made upon the receivers were drawn with the intention of not being complied with.

Looking at the growth of the pension roll at Washington, we need not wonder that every little war-cloud on the horizon, the size of a weasel, becomes a whale in the estimation of a great many people. A few months ago a fellow named Cutting got into some kind of a scrape which led to his arrest by the Mexican authorities, and straightway volunteers for immediate service were offered by captains, colonels, brigadier-generals in various places, and by one Governor of a State. Now that the principle has been adopted that anybody who has served in any war and has since become "dependent" must have a pension, it will not need any violent extension of the principle to provide that anybody who has *offered* to serve in a war shall also have a pension, provided he becomes dependent afterward. It is to be expected that in the course of revolving years all the pension claimants of the war for the Union (and their widows by their side) will be buried in the graves of heroes. Then will come the chance of the volunteers who were prevented from fighting against Mexico or Canada by no fault of their own, for how can this country hold up its head in the world without a big pension roll? How can it compete with the nations of Europe unless it has disbursements corresponding to theirs? Can we imagine so disgraceful a state of public economy and national cheese-paring as a dwindling pension list? Whatever else we have or don't have, we must never be without pensioners. Looking forward to the time when death will have deprived us of this source of renown, and seeing the consternation that will come upon us when any year shall call for a smaller appropriation than the last one, the volunteers along the lakes, from Buffalo to Chicago, for immediate service against Canada are quite right in placing themselves in the line of promotion to the pension list. It was reported that the late Thurlow Weed drew a pension to the day of his death in consequence of being mustered into the Home Guards during the war of 1812. With such precedents before us, why should not volunteering flourish? Unless something is done to make good the ravages of time among the soldier element, we may be driven to pensioning the ex-rebels.

A morning contemporary, waggishly attached to the Democratic party, which was lately "running" Mr. Conkling for the Senatorship against Mr. Smith Weed, reprimands the Louisville *Courier-Journal* for assuming that President Cleveland will be renominated by his party in 1888. It should be remarked that the Louisville paper is waggishly opposed to Mr. Cleveland's nomination, but considers it inevitable, and declares beforehand its mirthful intention to support him if nominated, although it considers him grossly unfit for the place. Its New York contemporary thinks that the only danger of Mr. Cleveland's renomination arises from a mystification and misconception widely prevalent in the South that Mr. Cleveland is strong in New York, and will be able to secure the delegation of this State in the next national Convention. This opinion is in fact widely prevalent among greenhorns, so much so, indeed, that it may have a preponderant reflex influence upon the Democracy of New York. "It would indeed be the greatest political joke of the decade," says our waggish contemporary, "if men who feel thus should meet and accept as inevitable the easily preventable." Yes, it would be a joke fit to be repeated in any company of Democratic supporters of Mr. Conkling for the Senatorship as against Mr. Smith Weed. The two jokes together would not fail to set the table in a roar. If reinforced by the pleasantry of the Butler campaign of 1884 at any dinner party at the Manhattan Club, we would not be answerable for the consequences.

There was trouble of a very serious character in Tazewell Court-house, Virginia, a few days ago. Col. May, one of the counsel in a criminal case, was cross-examining a witness on a subject disagreeable to the witness, one Baldwin, who thereupon drew a pistol, and declared he would "settle" Col. May "if he reflected on his character." The Colonel drew a pistol also, to prepare for the settlement, but the officers seized Baldwin, and the affair went no further. As there had been no settlement, Baldwin was not called to account by the Court for a contempt, or any little thing of that kind. So he sent word to the Colonel that if he reflected on him in his argument on the following day he would hold him "personally responsible." The Colonel, however, says the local journal, "was making a powerful argument, and had discussed the salient points," when he got to the place where Baldwin's testimony was to be handled. Here the Colonel naturally "made an impressive pause," and then announced that he was going to do his duty by Baldwin, who thereupon made his appearance with a pistol and opened fire. The Colonel returned it, and the whole audience apparently joined in, and bullets were soon flying in all parts of the room. The Colonel received a ball in the leg; Capt. Tines was shot in the arm, the Rev. E. A. Tilling in the scalp, and John H. Witten had his front teeth shot out. Others had their clothing perforated. The judges do not appear to have taken part in the fray, but "behaved coolly," we are told, under fire. "Many people," the reporter says, "were glad after this that the trial was to end on the following day." Baldwin got off unhurt, having basely taken refuge in the jury room. Col May with Roman firmness offered to continue his argument with the ball in his leg, but his physician interfered.

The defeat of Mr. Goschen, Lord Salisbury's new Chancellor of the Exchequer, at Liverpool, following as it does his defeat at Edinburgh at the last election, is almost as heavy a blow for the Ministry as for him. The complete dislocation the Cabinet has undergone, and its shilly-shally policy in Ireland, have greatly weakened and discredited it with the public, and a few severe maulings in the House of Commons, such as it will probably receive, would compel it to try its luck again at the polls, or surrender at discretion. That it would get another lease of power in this way seems now unlikely, as a good many of the Liberal Unionists, to whose support it owes its existence, would almost certainly fail to be reëlected. When they were returned, anti-Gladstonite Liberals had not fully realized what a Tory Ministry kept in power by Liberal votes meant. The arrangement has disgusted and alarmed a good many moderate men, from the constitutional point of view, because it gives the office and the responsibility to Lord Salisbury, while giving the power to Lord Hartington. Lord Salisbury has been during the past year the constitutional adviser of the Crown, but he has taken no step without consulting Lord Hartington, who is not a minister at all. This is a sham of which the public has been growing more and more impatient.

The Italians sent a small force to Massowah, on the coast of the Red Sea, two years ago to take part in the British attempt to reach Khartum and occupy the Sudan. It was done from somewhat the same motives as actuated the Sardinians in taking part in the invasion of the Crimea in 1854—that is, a desire to form a sort of alliance with a great Power in view of future complications near home. The British invasion of the Sudan has failed, but the Italians have remained at Massowah, where they have from time to time attempted small demonstrations against the Arabs, in conjunction with the secular enemy of the Arabs, the Abyssinians. The Abyssinians are great fighters, and have, as their existence as a nation shows, generally got the better of the Arabs, but their luck or skill appears to have failed them at last, and they have shared the fate of the Egyptians in being cut to pieces, though led by their best general, Ras-a-lula. The small Italian force acting with them shared, or nearly shared, their fate. This has had the usual effect on the Italians at home. They are all for vengeance and the vindication of the honor of their arms, as the English were under similar circumstances. So the Chambers have voted almost unanimously more men and more money to pursue, in a deadly climate and through trackless wastes, an enemy who can never be conquered, and victory over whom has no result but the slaughter of so many men.

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SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S NEWS.

[Wednesday, January 26, to Tuesday, February 1, 1887, inclusive.]

DOMESTIC.

The President has signed the act granting pensions to the soldiers and sailors of the Mexican war.

The President has vetoed the Senate bill granting a pension to Benjamin Obekiah. He has also vetoed a bill for the relief of H. K. Belding, a mail contractor, who asserts that in 1860 he performed service for which he was not paid, on intimation from the Postmaster-General that Congress would reimburse him. The President says: "It appears that this contractor, who in 1860 claimed that he continued full service upon the invitation of his own unanswered letter for less than four months, insists twenty-seven years after the date of the alleged service that he performed such service for seventeen months, and up to October, 1860. Not only has he himself in this manner almost conclusively shown that the claim now made and allowed is exorbitant, but the evidence gives rise to a strong presumption that it is entirely fictitious."

The President on Tuesday sent in a message vetoing the Senate bill granting a pension to Mrs. Margaret Dunlap, mother of James F. Dunlap of the Seventh Missouri Militia Cavalry, who died in 1864 of wounds received at the hands of a comrade. The President shows that Dunlap was the aggressor in the quarrel.

In the Senate on Wednesday Mr. Hoar earnestly pressed his motion for an investigation of the charges that political rights are denied to American citizens in Texas. He contrasted the allegations of Texas citizens with the outrages upon the American fishermen, and asked if American citizenship in Texas was any less sacred than the rights of American fishermen in Canadian waters. Mr. Hoar's resolution was adopted—31 to 26.

The Senate, on Wednesday in executive session, again rejected the nomination of J. C. Matthews (colored) to be Recorder of Deeds in the District of Columbia.

The Senate Committee on Post-offices and Post-roads on Wednesday agreed to report an original postal-telegraph bill as a substitute for that introduced by Senator Edmunds. The new bill provides for the establishment by the Postmaster-General of a postal-telegraph system by contracting for the performance of the service with existing telegraph companies. The Government is required to furnish the offices and make provision for selling stamps to cover the charges. The schedule of rates is fixed at 20 cents for twenty words where the distance of transmission is 1,000 miles, and 5 cents for every additional 250 miles; provided, however, that no charge for twenty words or less shall be more than 50 cents. Night rates are fixed at 15 cents for 2,000 miles or under. All words except the date are to be counted, and for every five words or less in excess of twenty, an addition of one-fifth the twenty-word rate is to be charged. The press rates are fixed at not exceeding 35 cents for each 100 words sent at night and 75 cents during the day, and the same pro-rata for each word in excess of 100.

On Thursday the Senate, on motion of Mr. Cullom, adopted a resolution directing the Finance Committee to inquire why the Secretary of the Treasury does not include the $15,000,000 of fractional currency in the amounts available, and to report what legislation, if any, is necessary to compel him to do so. It also passed "The Dependent Relatives Pension Bill," the Pension Committee having reported the bill just as it came from the House. It is said it will take fifty millions from the Treasury. This bill changes the policy which the Republicans have kept upon the statute books since the war, placing upon the pension rolls soldiers engaged in any early war even if they joined in the rebellion. It will pension Jeff Davis, for instance.

The Senate Finance Committee on Tuesday morning agreed to report favorably the Freedman's Bank Bill with some amendments, the bill to refund tolls to certain States, which, it is expected, will require $20,000,000, and the bill to reimburse New York and other States for arms furnished to Union troops.

The House Foreign Affairs Committee on Thursday referred the Retaliation Bill to a subcommittee for careful consideration. The sentiment was averse to hasty action.

The River and Harbor Bill was passed on Thursday just as it came from the Committee by a vote of 154 to 94. This action makes it almost certain that a river and harbor bill will be passed at this session.

The Texas Senatorial contest ended on Tuesday in the election of John H. Reagan as United States Senator on the thirty-second ballot.

When Mr. Hearst (Dem.) presents his credentials as United States Senator from California at Washington, his claim to the seat will be contested by H. W. Vrooman, who has certificates that all the Republicans in the Legislature voted for him, and that he has therefore a majority of the legally-elected members of the Legislature.

It is said that Representative W. R. Cox of North Carolina, the civil-service reformer, will be the new Minister to Turkey.

It is settled now that Mr. C. N. Jordan, Treasurer of the United States, will relinquish his present office on May 1, in order to accept an office, probably the vice-presidency of the Western National Bank of the city of New York, now organizing, and which will be fully established by that date. It is also believed that Secretary Manning will soon resign, to be succeeded by Mr. Fairchild, and will possibly take the presidency of the same bank.

The decrease of the public debt for January was $9,750,000.

The report of the Commissioners of the Niagara Falls Reservation was presented in the New York Assembly on Monday night. Its estimates for the future are that the income for the coming year, plus the amount on hand, will about pay expenses. But after next year, the income from sales of property ceasing, the reservation will have to depend on fixed income from privileges, the inclined railroad, etc., which will not be sufficient.

A full force of new men was at work on all the piers in this city on Monday, and the 'longshore strikers were practically beaten. The freight-handlers of this city on Monday presented a demand for an increase of wages, and threatened to strike on Tuesday if it were not granted. They accordingly struck on Tuesday at most of the railroad piers in New York.

One incident of the strike was the attempt to blow up with dynamite the Old Dominion steamer *Guyandotte*, which left New York on Monday afternoon for Norfolk. The explosive was in a valise, and the infernal machine went off at about 5:45 P. M., knocking a big hole in the hurricane deck and injuring two men. The man who placed the valise on board has not been discovered. The *Guyandotte* put back to port.

The boot manufacturers of Worcester, Spencer, and North Brookfield, Mass., on Wednesday posted the following notice in their factories: "Recognizing the fact that justice can only be obtained by according to both employer and employee the right of individual contract for his or her labor, this factory will hereafter be open only to such operatives as will agree to deal individually with the firm or its accredited representative."

Ex-Alderman John O'Neil of this city was on Tuesday night found guilty of bribery in the Broadway Railroad scandal.

FOREIGN.

Contrary to the expectation of the most sanguine Liberals, Mr. George J. Goschen, Chancellor of the Exchequer, was on Wednesday defeated in the Exchange Division of Liverpool by Mr. Neville (Gladstonite), the vote being 3,217 to 3,210. The news was received at the different Liberal headquarters with the wildest enthusiasm. Mr. Neville's election has done almost as much as a general election could to clear the political atmosphere. It will make the Government more chary of dissolving Parliament.

Parliament reassembled on Thursday without any unusual demonstrations. The Queen's speech, after reviewing the peaceful relations of England with all the foreign Powers, says: "The condition of Ireland still requires your anxious attention. Grave crimes in that country have happily been rarer in the last few months than during the similar period of the preceding year; but the relations between the owners and occupiers of the land, which in the early autumn exhibited signs of improvement, have since been seriously disturbed in some districts by organized attempts to incite the latter class to combine against the fulfilment of their legal obligations. The efforts of the Government to cope with this evil have been seriously impeded by the difficulties incident to the method at present prescribed by statute for dealing with such offences. Your early attention will be called to proposals for the reform of legal procedure which seem necessary to secure prompt and efficient administration of the Criminal Law. Bills for the improvement of local government in England and Scotland will be laid before you. Should the circumstances render it possible, they will be followed by a measure dealing with the same subject in Ireland. A bill for improving and cheapening the process of private-bill legislation for England, Scotland, and Ireland will be submitted. You will be asked to consider measures having for their object the removal of hindrances which exist to the cheap and rapid transfer of land; to facilitate the provision of allotments for small householders, and to provide for the readier sale of glebe lands. A bill for altering the mode of levying tithes in England and Wales will be submitted. With regard to Scotland, you will be asked to consider measures for the reform of the universities, for completing the recent legislation as to the powers of the Secretary for Scotland, and for amending the procedure of the criminal courts."

In the House of Commons on Thursday night W. H. Smith, First Lord of the Treasury, gave notice of the Government's intention to introduce measures for the reform of the rules of Parliamentary procedure, and said he would ask facilities for giving precedence to the consideration of these measures, that they might be at once discussed from day to day. Mr. Smith said the discussion of the procedure measures would be subject only to such interruptions as might be necessary for the conduct of urgent business. Lord Randolph Churchill explained the reasons which led him to resign from the Cabinet. He said he retired because the Government's naval and military estimates exceeded £31,000,000, without counting the large supplementary estimates. He insisted on having these estimates reduced, but his colleagues refused to cut them down, "although," added Lord Randolph, "I had been urging economy ever since August." Lord Randolph then referred to the Government's foreign policy, and declared amid loud Opposition cheers: "I also objected to the Government's policy of needless interference in the affairs of other nations. The Marquis of Salisbury wrote, defending the estimates in the face of possible war, as he said. There was no course left open for me but to write my resignation." The letter in which Lord Salisbury accepted Lord Randolph's resignation was read. In it he said: "The outlook on the Continent is so very black that it is not too much

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to say that the chances are in favor of a war at an early date. When once it has broken out we shall not be secure from being involved. Therefore, we cannot accept the responsibility of refusing supplies which the War and Navy Ministers have declared necessary."

Mr. Gladstone made a brief speech, in which he applauded what he called Lord Randolph's sacrifices in behalf of a sound economic policy. He found no fault with the Government's foreign policy, but strongly objected to the severance of the Treasury portfolio from the Premiership, and the combining of the latter with the heavy duties of Foreign Secretary. He hoped the country would oppose the oppression of Bulgaria by a foreign Power. He greatly regretted that the Queen's speech had not expressed regret at the recent lamentable evictions in Kerry.

In the House of Lords, the Marquis of Salisbury, alluding to Lord Randolph's resignation, said he thought the execution of Lord Randolph Churchill's policy at the present time would inflict an injury on the public service, because it was a time when no one could tell what crisis might happen. The Marquis said ne hoped the Conservatives would soon again have the advantage of Lord Randolph Churchill's services. He said that nothing known to nim gave an impression that there was imminent danger of war.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach made a long and able speech in the House of Commons on Friday evening. "The Government," he said, "will soon introduce legislation for dealing with the condition of the miserable inhabitants congested in certain districts of Ireland." He denied most emphatically that he had ever exercised a dispensing power in granting Government aid to sheriffs for evictions, but admitted that he had put pressure on landlords to induce them to come to terms. Finally, he foreshadowed coercion in the following words: "I will not enter into the details as to legislative measures with regard to Irish criminal law. We have done what we could with the tools ready to our hands; but difficulties and delays inseparable from the working of the ordinary criminal law as it now exists render it in our judgment insufficient to cope with such proceedings as described in the name 'plan of campaign.' We are pledged to maintain the Union; but it is no use to maintain the Union—it is worse than useless to maintain the Union—it would be better to have separation, unless with the Union we maintain the reign of law in Ireland."

Lord Randolph Churchill made a telling speech in the House of Commons on Monday night. The Liberal-Unionist alliance he declared he had never regarded as other than a useful crutch. As for Mr. Chamberlain's latest suggestion for a rounder round table at which Salisbury and Gladstone should meet, he laughed at it. He spoke contemptuously of Mr. Chamberlain's extraordinary gyrations, and asserted strongly that his own resignation was not upon the question of fortifying coaling stations, but of general retrenchment. He challenged his late colleagues to appoint a special committee to inquire into the army and navy estimates. "It is not the first time," he added in conclusion, "that it has been my ill fortune to wrestle with the Tory party; but on this great question of retrenchment and economy I patiently await the judgment of Cæsar."

Mr. Parnell moved the following amendment to the address in reply to the Queen's speech: "The relations between the owners and the occupiers of land in Ireland have not been seriously disturbed in the cases of those who granted to their tenants such abatements as were demanded by the prices of agricultural and pastoral produce. The remedy for the crisis in Irish agrarian affairs will be found, not in an increased stringency of criminal procedure or in the pursuit of such novel, doubtful, and unconstitutional measures as those recently taken by her Majesty's Government, but in such reform of the law and system of Government as will satisfy the needs and secure the confidence of the Irish people."

The Government's proposals for the reform of the procedure rules of Parliament leave the numerical limitations for enforcing closure the same as before, but transfer the initiative for demanding closure to any member who has obtained the Speaker's consent to make the motion. Motions to adjourn the House and discuss business of urgent public importance, which have been dependent hitherto upon the consent of forty members, shall not in the future be made without the consent of the Speaker, to whom a statement upon the subject proposed to be discussed must be submitted in writing.

Mr. Chamberlain writes to the London *Times* at considerable length to show the practicability of the adaptation of the Canadian Constitution to Ireland, to meet the fundamental conditions of Lord Hartington's plan for the government of Ireland. Mr. Gladstone, writing to a Glasgow paper, says there are many circumstantial differences between the cases of Canada and Ireland, but within and under them there is a strong analogy. In the main they have the same friends and foes. Toryism has not supported freedom in Canada, and resists it in Ireland.

Mr. Gladstone, in an article in the February number of the *Nineteenth Century*, contends that though Ireland formerly gained concessions from England through fear, an attempt by Ireland to repeat her former tactics would be like warring against heaven now. England's strength compared with Ireland's is as ten to one. He would rather rely, he says, upon England's innate sense of justice. Mr. Gladstone defends the American donations to Ireland, on the ground that they have done much to stave off famine.

It is announced that the British Imperial Government has consented to send out men-of-war next season to assist in the protection of the Dominion fisheries.

Two of the seized American schooners have recently been released on the payment of nominal fines. United States Minister Phelps had an hour's conference with the Marquis of Salisbury on Friday at the Premier's request to discuss the Canadian fisheries question. The conference was most cordial on both sides.

There was terrible rioting in the Petershill, Carrickhill, and Shankhill Districts of Belfast on Saturday night. The trouble originated through soldiers belonging to the West Surrey Regiment insulting a number of Catholic civilians. The latter retaliated by stoning the soldiers, many of whom were injured. This was followed by wholesale arrests, more than 100 persons being placed in the lock-up. On Sunday evening the rioting was renewed, and the police and the mob exchanged shots. Many persons received gunshot wounds, and a large number of others were more or less bruised by being struck by stones.

Commander Cameron has offered to lead a second expedition to relieve Emin Bey. The sum of £3,000 has been offered towards the expenses. Henry M. Stanley telegraphed from Cairo on Monday as follows: "Nubar Pasha desires me to contradict the reports that the Egyptian Government is raising difficulties for the Emin Bey relief expedition. The men and everything I have asked for will be ready for departure on Monday." Mr. Stanley adds that everything is proceeding satisfactorily.

A Grand Imperial Council was held at Vienna on Saturday, at which it was decided to convoke the delegations for March to vote extra credits of $15,000,000 for the army and a special credit for the equipment of the Landsturm.

The Vienna *Fremdenblatt's* announcement of the decisions of the Imperial Council caused a heavy fall on the Vienna Bourse on Monday, and there was almost a panic. It is reported that a credit of 46,000,000 florins will be demanded exclusively for the regular army, and additional credits for the Landsturm.

The Berlin *Post* (semi-official), in a leading article entitled "On the Edge of the Knife," on Monday said: "The position of Gen. Boulanger is now not only strengthened, but is becoming unassailable. He is the master of the situation to a degree that neither Thiers nor Gambetta ever was. He can only govern the situation by keeping up the warlike impetus he has given to it. The impression left on the minds of all observers is that, the armaments of France having been pushed forward with feverish energy, Boulanger no longer has the power to lead the people back to the path of peace. If he attempted to do so, he would have to quit his post burdened with reproach for having led France to the brink of a great peril." The National Liberal party in their manifesto say: "Never since the Franco-German war has the danger of a great conflict been so near. No statesman can form any certain conclusion as to the future, even for a few weeks. The peace of Europe rests at this moment solely upon the strength, readiness for action, and moral trustworthiness of the German Army." The *Post's* article caused a panic on the Paris Bourse on Tuesday, three per cent. rentes declining 2 francs and 67½ centimes. The bourses of Berlin, Vienna, and other capitals were panicky. Everywhere the belief that war is imminent is prevalent. It is said that the Emperor William has finally decided that the question must be settled in his lifetime.

The *Pesther Lloyd* publishes a communication from Berlin which it asserts is from an authentic source, and which states that war between Germany and France is regarded as more probable at Berlin than is to be inferred from the information which is permitted to be accessible to the public. "It is erroneous," says the letter, "to suppose that the semi-official press of Germany publish the details of French armaments merely for the purpose of influencing the people in the coming elections. We happen to know that Prince Bismarck recently, when he had that view of the case presented to him, quoted, in reply, from 'Faust,' the words, 'Thou resemblest the spirit whom thou comprehendest; not me.' The Prince added that the statements made in behalf of the German Government respecting French armaments were not put forth as any part of election manœuvring, but as a warning, and he said the cold douche had been turned on with less force this time in order not to provoke the people too much, but it would be turned on with greater strength if that was found to be necessary."

At a court reception at Berlin on Friday Emperor William informed the assembled officers that 72,000 men of the reserves would be called out immediately and be drilled in the use of the new repeating rifle. He added: "This action will produce loud rumors of war, but there will be no war. The reserves will be called only to accustom them to new weapons." It is reported that the Crown Prince at the same reception said the situation was still serious.

An order has been issued forbidding the exportation of horses across the German frontier in any direction. In special cases deserving of exception, exemption will be made from the present and from future measures controlling the exportation of these animals.

In the French Chamber of Deputies on Friday M. Laguerre's motion to abolish the censorship of plays was opposed by the Government, and was rejected by a vote of 338 to 169.

The Bulgarian delegates, in an interview with Premier Tricoupis of Greece, said that they would never yield on the question of changing the present Government of Bulgaria

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OUR STANDING ARMY OF PENSIONERS.

It has always been our boast as Americans that we are not obliged to support a great standing army, and that we thus escape the crushing burden of those vast military establishments which Great Britain and the Continental nations are forced to maintain even in time of peace. But the people of the United States are already supporting a standing army of pensioners which approaches in numbers the dimensions of the standing armies of the greatest Powers, and the annual pension list in this country calls for an expenditure almost as large as the cost of sustaining those immense military establishments. If the new Pension Bill which has just passed Congress becomes a law, and an allowance of $12 a month is granted to any veteran of any war who claims that he cannot earn a living, the number of pensioners will far exceed that of any standing army in Europe, and the yearly appropriation for their support will be vastly greater in amount than the annual expense of any such army.

When the pending pension bill was before the House, one or two inquisitive members sought to gain some idea as to its probable cost. The promoters of the measure, as usual in such cases, rather resented such questions, and tried to dismiss the matter of expense as worth little thought. Being pressed to make at least a guess at the probable sum, the Chairman of the Pension Committee presented the only data for an estimate which anybody had thought it worth while to collect before pushing the proposition to an issue. It has been learned by inquiries addressed to the local authorities that in 1,240 of the 2,583 counties in the United States there are 5,172 soldiers and sailors now supported in public institutions of charity. On this basis it was estimated that there are in all such institutions in the country 10,344 veterans As to the number in the soldiers' homes, both State and national, there was "no exact information"; but the Committee made a guess that there were not over 3,000. They then made another guess at the number who are not supported by public charity, but who receive private relief from persons not legally bound for their support, and, allowing five to each county, added 12,905 for this class, making in all 26,249 probable new pensioners under the bill, to whom were further added 6,856 as the number of those claimants whose cases are now pending in the Pension Office under former laws, but who naturally would avail themselves of the more generous terms of this measure. This makes 33,105 veterans of the Union army in the civil war who were expected by the Committee to avail themselves of the $144 yearly allowance. But the bill includes also soldiers in the Mexican and Indian wars, and, adding 10 or 15 per cent. to the above total for this class, Mr. Matson, Chairman of the Committee, held that "it would still require less than $6,000,000 per annum to pay the expenses of all the pensions provided for in the bill."

Mr. Matson insisted that this was a liberal estimate of the cost of the new measure, but it only requires the most cursory acquaintance with previous pension legislation to show that it is ridiculously inadequate. Mr. McKinley of Ohio says that, instead of requiring "less than $6,000,000," this bill (with the allied Mexican Pension Bill, which went through the House on the same day) "will take from $25,000,000 to $50,000,000 annually out of the Treasury, and I do not know but a great deal more." The highest of Mr. McKinley's estimates does not so far exceed the guess of the Committee as the cost of the Arrears of Pensions Bill (which has already taken more than $218,000,000) exceeds the mere bagatelle of $20,000,000 which its promoters fixed as the maximum possible cost of that scheme. A candid consideration of the facts indicates that $50,000,000 a year will fall far short of the demands which will be made upon the Treasury under this bill.

Four years ago the Commissioner of Pensions, in his annual report, made some calculations which show that 2,049,969 different individuals enlisted in the volunteer forces for longer or shorter periods during the civil war, to whom should be added the 16,422 in the regular army and navy at the beginning of the civil war, making a grand total of 2,066,391 who fought on the Union side. Of these, 359,496 died in the service, leaving more than 1,700,000 alive at the close of the struggle. On the 30th of June last there were upon the roll the names of 268,807 men who served in the army or navy during the war, and incurred wounds or disabilities entitling them to pensions under our present most liberal laws. Making a generous allowance for the deaths among ex-soldiers since the war, it seems reasonable to conclude that there must be still surviving nearly 1,000,000 veterans who are not entitled to pensions under existing law—for the longevity of soldiers, when it is a question of pensions, is proverbial, as is illustrated by the fact that of our little force in the war of 1812, which ended nearly three-quarters of a century ago, there were no less than 1,539 drawing pensions last June. Besides, there are to be added to the survivors of the civil war the men still living who fought in the Mexican war, the Seminole and Black Hawk wars, and other little struggles which, although they cut but a slight figure in history, always develop an unexpectedly large number of survivors when there is an offer of pensions. There can apparently be no doubt that there are a million men in this country who served in one or another war, and who become possible candidates for pensions under the proposed bill.

In considering how many of this million would get pensions, it must be remembered that practically all the men who were either wounded in battle or incurred disability which a conscientious person could attribute to army service, are already pensioners. We are to deal now with a class which includes all the shirks who tried to keep out of harm's way, all the men who entered the army not from motives of patriotism, but because they were either attracted into it by the great bounties offered or were forced into it by draft—in short, all of what that gallant Union soldier, Gen. Bragg of Wisconsin, called in the House the other day "the rubbish of the army." Many of these are men with little self-respect, who, no matter how vigorous they may be, are eagerly looking for a chance of getting supported at the expense of somebody else. Moreover it must be kept in mind that any chance to get a living at the public expense offers a temptation before which many men who would ordinarily be considered men of self-respect are sure to fall, since it is so easy for any one to persuade himself that he is not able to work when he finds that it is not necessary to work. Of the million men who might apply for pensions under the pending bill, it is a moderate estimate to say that fully half would get them; the probability is that much more than 500,000 would be found on the roll within a short period. Half a million men would call for $72,000,000 a year.

Taking the moderate estimate of 500,000, let us see how our standing army of pensioners will compare with the standing armies of European nations, using the latest figures, in most cases for the current fiscal year:

Great Britain (regular army)	209,480
Austria-Hungary "	286,423
Germany "	449,342
France "	523,283
U. S. pension roll (all classes) now	365,783
U. S. pension roll as proposed, at least	865,783

Compare now the entire cost of the military establishments, including ordinary and extraordinary expenses, in these great Powers, with the present and the probable cost of our standing army of pensioners:

Great Britain	$102,477,010
Austria-Hungary	51,307,602
Germany	91,522,495
France	126,366,086
United States annual pension bill now,	75,000,000
United States annual pension bill as proposed, at least	147,000,000

In other words, our pension roll already is almost double the standing army of Great Britain, far exceeds that of Austria-Hungary, is more than two-thirds as large as the French army, and more than three-fourths that of Germany, while a moderate estimate of the additions probable under the pending bill would swell its dimensions to the appalling total of 865,000 persons, against only 523,283 in the largest of these European armies. The regular annual pension appropriation bill recently passed by Congress far exceeds the entire cost of maintaining the whole military establishment of Austria-Hungary, and is about three-fourths as large as the cost of that establishment in either Great Britain or Germany, while the $147,000,000 to which it would be swollen at the very least under the pending bill would make the burden more than half as large again as the cost of the standing army even in Germany.

The standing armies of the great Powers are quite as heavy burdens upon the people of Europe as they have ever been represented. But, unless a halt is called, the rage of demagogues will have imposed upon the people of America a heavier burden of taxation for pensions than even the French or the Germans have to endure to maintain their vast military establishments. Fortunately there is a chance to make public sentiment felt in this matter before the President will be called upon to act; and while the press may do much to strengthen the President to veto the measure, private appeals from individuals, particularly from such as served in the war, may be even more potent.

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HOW THE INTER-STATE COMMERCE BILL WILL WORK.

THE President has not yet acted upon the Inter-State Commerce Bill, but, with the great majorities in both houses of Congress in its favor, even an Executive veto will hardly prevent its becoming a law. Hence it may be assumed that this new departure is now definitively taken, after the many futile starts at the Capitol in the same direction. It is taken, but no one can foretell where it will land the public and the transportation interests directly affected by it. The very uncertainty as to its effect was, indeed, the most striking incident of its enactment. The debates immediately preceding its passage, even, justify the assertion that Congress has never before made so conscious a leap in the dark. They were marked by features the like of which, we venture to say, rarely, if ever, have been seen in any legislative body in this or any other country. Here was a measure the most important provisions of which, viz., the long and short-haul and anti-pool clauses, had a vital bearing upon the commerce, industry, and agriculture of the whole land. They were retained in spite of the most earnest protests of the principal commercial bodies East and West. They were so framed that every Senator and member who spoke upon the bill, including its authors and most active promoters, admitted their want of clearness and their liability to every sort of interpretation. Not one pretended to understand their meaning, or to be able to measure exactly their probable practical working. But, while all admitted their uncertainty, no appeal for amendment availed. It was clear, in fact, from the beginning, that the majority in each house were entirely under the influence of the belief that Congress must do something to satisfy the popular clamor for anti-railroad legislation. Hence the law-makers were less disturbed by the risk of subjecting the most important material interests of the entire nation to a crude and incomprehensible law, than of exposing themselves to the chance of popular disfavor.

There is a strong probability that the law will be a failure, with the single exception of the provision requiring publicity of tariffs. Not that the latter is the only good feature of the law, or that we consider Federal supervision over common carriers altogether impracticable. On the contrary, we hold that it contains other provisions, such as the clause prohibiting discrimination in rates, which, if enforcible, would correct acknowledged evils. We hold that a moderate exercise of authority by the national Government over the transportation interests, within practicable limits, and working through the natural influence of the Government and the force of public opinion, rather than through over-exacting legislative prescriptions, would be of great public benefit. But we contend that the law as it stands is nothing less than an attempt to substitute for the established business organism, so to speak, of the country, a piece of State socialism at variance with the real interests of the people and with the national character. It is evident, too, that the very effort to provide a solution for perhaps the most intricate problem of modern times, all at once and by force of one law, inevitably led to the creation of inadequate machinery, of a multiplicity of functions and complication of details, and that in its practical application the law will encounter such obstacles as will reduce it to a dead letter. This is our deliberate conclusion, based upon careful study. Space does not permit us to state all the reasons for it, but we will give the principal ones.

In dealing first with the focal point, as it were, the long and short-haul clause, the task is easy, as the proof is furnished by Senator Cullom himself. During the final discussion in the Senate, the few of his colleagues who had the independence and courage to expose the true character of the bill subjected him to a close examination as to his construction of the clause. He was led to say that, as he and the other members of the Conference Committee understood it, the qualification of the prohibition to charge more for a short than for a long haul by the terms in the clause, "under substantially similar circumstances and conditions," meant that such prohibition would apply only and exclusively in cases of transportation where certain circumstances and conditions combined. "To my mind," the Senator said, "these words 'circumstances and conditions' are full of meaning. *They comprehend all the circumstances and conditions that may justify differences in rates, such as competition with other railroads and with water routes, the volume and character of business at different points, the difference in terminal expenses and the cost of service in each case.*" This means clearly, and the Senator did not deny it when it was so construed by his colleagues in his hearing, that the inhibition is not intended to be enforcible in any case in which any of the defined circumstances and conditions obtain, or, inversely stated, that the inhibition applies only in cases where none of these circumstances and conditions operate. Well did a Senator defy all his colleagues to cite a single possible case in all railroad experience not coming within this alternative, and well might another exclaim, "With that construction, all the beneficial part of the bill is given away."

We need hardly add that, with this construction as a fulcrum, it will not tax the ingenuity of railroad managers very seriously to lift the short and long-haul clause out of the way. In this view, it is perhaps not necessary to dwell upon the practical results of a possible enforcement of the clause. It may be taken for granted, however, that such a contingency would prove a real calamity to the public, while it might be a real boon to the common carriers. For the law does not prescribe, as a good portion of the public seem to imagine, a fixed rate per mile according to distance. Under its language, it will be possible, as Senator Cullom distinctly admitted, to charge for a short haul any rate not higher than and not equal to the rate for the longest haul. In other words, local rates may be charged for any distance just under the rate for the longest distance. It is certain, therefore, that, in case of an enforcement, all the carriers whose earnings from through business are unimportant as compared with local earnings, would go out of the former, but find more than compensation for the loss of it by increasing local rates. Take, for instance, all the Pacific railroads and all the lines from Missouri River points to Denver. With all of them the profit from through business forms but a small percentage of their total net revenue, and they would all largely gain by withdrawing from it and raising their local tariff. But such a policy would work immeasurable mischief for all the so-called competitive points, which are the chief commercial and industrial centres. For "to get out of" or "withdraw from" the through business would really mean for the railroads to do it at rates, fixed for the sake of high local rates, that would entirely paralyze the interior commerce of the country. This would, of course, forthwith produce an irresistible reaction against the law that would not be long in making itself felt at the Capitol.

To come now to the feature next in importance, the interdiction of pooling. It is a characteristic fact that, while as to the long and short haul a door was deliberately left open for its modification in practice, pooling is prohibited peremptorily and absolutely. Yet the petitions and remonstrances from the most important Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce before Congress had emphatically protested against such prohibition, as pools had unquestionably proved a great gain to the general business community by securing stable rates. Moreover, the experience of every other country is to the same effect. In Germany, Austria, and Russia, where there is partial Government ownership of the railroads, the Governments directly foster not only interior but international pools as the best means of insuring satisfactory income to the roads and of meeting the wants of the public as to rates. We deem it as certain as anything, in the solution of the railroad problem in the United States, that the national Government and the public will, after a short period of trial, unite in adopting the correct view of pooling

Meantime, how will the prohibition work? We believe that among the scores of men of the sharpest wit and longest experience intrusted with the management of the principal American railways, there is not one who has not already devised a method of his own by which the object of the pools may be reached in ways not in formal contravention of the law. One of the means to secure to railroads the advantages of pools without infringement of the law might be a system of actually dividing and carrying traffic at the same rates, instead of the present system of not dividing traffic, but dividing the earnings for it with hauling allowances. Then pools might be arranged within the limits of States, so as to exempt them from the operation of the law under the proviso of section 1, and settlements be made between such State pools. Independent of such resorts, we think it a very open question whether the limitations of the powers of State corporations by the anti-pool section will be sustained in courts of law or equity. The consolidation of direct or indirect ownership—the former exemplified by the absorption of many local lines into the New York Central system, and the latter by the form of con-

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trol of Western lines by the Pennsylvania Company—would be another method of getting beyond the scope of the law, in keeping with the continuous tendency since the close of the civil war towards the evolution of great systems of lines through the absorption of the weak by the strong.

The strongest evidence of incompetence to deal with the subject lies in the provisions for the execution of the law. They create as the main instrument for this purpose a commission of five members and one secretary. It may be assumed, under the rules of ordinary business life, that those who own the stock and bonds of transportation companies know more about the transportation business than those who do not. But the opposite view prevails in the law, as owners of such securities are disqualified for service on the Commission. The six men composing this body are expected to perform prodigious feats of labor, the prescribed extent of which only proves that the framers of the law had no conception of what they were really requiring. The Commissioners are constituted, indeed, not only stationary and travelling investigators of and judges upon any and all transgressions of the law, but also examiners and regulators of the accounts and traffic relations, and collaters and digesters of the regular annual reports of the common carriers placed under their supervision. The magnitude of the burden thus imposed upon the Commission can be easily seen. Under the terms of the law, any person in the United States has an unqualified right to complain to the Commission of any supposed or real grievance against any common carrier. Now, considering this and the other provision of the law, that "all rates shall be just and reasonable," and considering also the constitutional inclination of most producers and shippers to look upon common carriers as their natural enemies, the inevitable result can be readily conceived. The Commission will be simply overwhelmed by a flood of grievances. The mass of material of this sort continually accumulating in the general offices of any one important railroad would furnish a measure of the vast uncontrollable aggregate that will pour in upon the Commission. We do not hesitate to say that any one of the great trunk lines will furnish sufficient matter for months of unceasing inquiry by the six men. Yet the law compels them to hear complaints not only against every railroad, but against every other common carrier by land and ocean, lake and river!—and not only to receive complaints against all these from any one who chooses to make them, but to carry on regular prosecutions of the offending common carriers in the Federal courts.

Their physical inability will be in the way, too, of the fulfilment of the other duties put upon the Commissioners. It implies almost childish ignorance to expect them to be able, in addition to their other task, to examine and report upon the financial condition, the revenues, the systems of account, all the methods of operation of each and every common carrier throughout the land—in other words, to achieve a work that is now being done and can only be done literally by tens of thousands of men under the direction of hundreds of experts distributed through hundreds of railroad offices If what the law aims at is to be really accomplished, nothing short of the organization of a regular department in Washington, with bureaus in every State and Territory, will do it.

We have stated the main reasons for our conviction that the law as it stands cannot be executed in practice. But we should consider it a national misfortune if this awkward attempt should result in the entire failure of railroad regulation by the Federal Government. Nor do we fear such an outcome. We believe, on the contrary, that this first experiment will gradually lead to a better understanding of the true requirements of the case, and to sound legislation in accordance with them.

IRELAND.—JURIES, THE LORD MAYOR'S BANQUET, EVICTIONS.

DUBLIN, January 19, 1887.

THE unsound state of feeling in Ireland is in no way more strikingly shown than in the condition and prospects of the jury system—the relations between jurors and the letter of the law. In all cases connected with politics or the tenure of land, however clear the evidence and the judge's charge, there is not the slightest chance of obtaining a conviction unless the jury has been "packed"—unless, roughly speaking, all Catholics have been, by challenges or "stand-asides," eliminated from the chosen twelve. A few weeks ago I had some personal experience of the kind. I was on a jury to try a peasant for having assaulted a policeman at a seizure for rent. There was a majority of Catholics on the panel, but only three or four were allowed to enter the box. The evidence was of a conflicting character. Against the apparently straightforward testimony of two policemen, a positive alibi was sworn to by some eight peasants, one of whom declared that he himself had thrown the stone. On our retiring to consider the verdict, it was evident that agreement was impossible. Three declared they would not believe the testimony of the police under the circumstances, seven that the evidence as to alibis by Irish peasants was worthless, and two were undecided as to their verdict. It was the second time the case had been tried within a few days, and the annoyance of the judge at the result was undisguised.

Conceptions of law in Ireland are poisoned at their source by the sense that the wishes of the minority prevail instead of the convictions of the majority. And the very effort of the Government to enforce and uphold the law under the present régime still further complicates matters. To secure convictions in certain important cases, Catholics are told to "stand aside"—an outrage to Catholic feeling throughout the country. To secure the intellect of the community and encourage lawyers to stand by the powers that be, friendly lawyers are appointed to influential posts, and, having served there, are promoted to the highest offices. The judge is by the people too often rightly regarded as one whose business it is, not to hold the scales of justice even, but to obtain convictions. In the above case the judge had been for long years in the Government service, and he carried with him to the bench all the proclivities of the Crown prosecutor—cross-examining the witnesses towards the guilt of the prisoner, and charging heavily against him. Frequently the judges have put off sentencing the prisoners, in momentous agrarian cases, until the end of assizes, so as not to alarm jurors by the severity of sentences following their verdicts. We now have the possible severity of the sentence considered, and naturally considered, by jurors.

I was much struck by the remark of one of the jurors in the case referred to: "Do you think I would find him guilty? Don't we all know the judge wants to make an example of him?" Like most ethical questions in troublous times and a disordered condition of society, the obligations of a juror's oath are not simple, however dangerous the admission may appear. British liberty has been much "broadened down" by the refusal of jurors to find verdicts upon the clearest evidence and the most direct dicta of the judge, this refusal having led to the modification and amelioration of the laws. Human feeling is approvingly permitted to play a large part in verdicts. A few years ago the inmate of an English prison made a savage attack upon a warder. The evidence was unquestionable. The law, as laid down by the judge, necessitated a conviction; yet the jury unhesitatingly acquitted the prisoner, and all England approved. The warder had killed a mouse which the prisoner had domesticated in his cell. Either the jury system must go down in Ireland, or the laws and sentences must be modified so as to meet the average sense of right and wrong of jurors. One of the worst heritages of misgovernment and degradation is the undermining of respect for truth. A people too weak to defend themselves are apt to shelter behind falsehood. Many will be the sufferers—great, doubtless, will be the laxity of the law in many directions, before the people of this country come to regard the sanctity of an oath as a free community regards it—before they learn to regard deceit as a source of weakness instead of a shield for the suffering and oppressed.

A few evenings ago the Mansion House presented an interesting spectacle. In the great Round Room built for the festivities with which, in 1821, George IV. was welcomed to Dublin, the Lord Mayor gave a banquet in honor of Mr. Labouchere, M. P., and Mr. Conybeare, M. P., as representatives of the English friends of home rule. The change was great from such banquets of the pre-Parnellite period. "This is a different Dublin from the Dublin I knew ten years ago," remarked a guest who had been absent from Ireland for some time. Formerly the Lord Lieutenant used to be the guest whom the New Year's banquet was designed to honor. "The Queen" was the chief toast, the Lord Lieutenant's speech was the great event of the evening; the judges, Government officials, the officers of the garrison, and of the war ships in harbor were the principal guests. How great is the change!—an uncompromising Home-Ruler in the civic chair; Irish members under the shadow of a state prosecution, and English Radicals, the most honored guests, the rank and file being the leaders of the people in the corporation, in the wards, in trade societies. "The old order changed, giving place to the new." The brilliant "V. R." in gas jets which used to crown the dais has been removed, and a harp with shamrocks substituted; and for the toast of "The Queen," that of "Our Native Land" was given. Contrary to the preconceived ideas of many regarding the democratizing of institutions, the Mansion House is, under the new régime, a much better kept, brighter, and more tastefully decorated place than formerly. "The people," who are unaccustomed to brightness and embellishment at home, appear to appreciate and demand them in their collective institutions more than do the class who, in their personal surroundings, have such tastes constantly gratified. It is pleasant to be able to add that although scantiness of wardrobe was in some instances shown in the absence of evening dress, and although the supply of wines was unstinted, the general de-

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meanor of the company compared favorably with that of the more select assemblages of former times.

The warm approval of the conduct of the Irish movement generally, and of the "plan of campaign" in particular, evinced by the guests of that evening, as lately by many British friends upon British platforms, is striking and encouraging: yet the masses of the thoughtful and the educated and well-to-do who tacitly approve of the same in Ireland do not practically throw themselves into the movement. It is easier to see the rights and wrongs of a contest from a distance than on the battle-field and in the confusion of the campaign. Moreover, the rights and wrongs of actual warfare are, according to present ideas, more easily defined than is a struggle such as that now waged in Ireland. Declare war, dress men in uniform, sound the bugle, give the word of command, and murder becomes right, the seizure of the enemy's property is praiseworthy, every underhand trick and lying subterfuge is accepted as necessary. The moral laws are suspended. Proclaim peace, call off the troops, everything falls into its natural place—lying becomes lying—robbery, robbery—murder, murder. But how is this Irish warfare conducted? By supporting all who declare themselves unable to meet their engagements with their landlords; by branding as selfish and as traitors those who on an estate may be better able to pay than others, and who are willing to pay; by claiming for the movement a constitutional basis, and yet supporting the people *in opposition to the laws and the constituted authorities*; classing the good landlord and the bad landlord together; acknowledging and supporting local associations which support their members in strikes against rents for property created by the landlord, as well as against rents for that created by the tenant. In effect, sympathy is proffered to the tenant, no matter how much he may be responsible for his own misfortunes; while open or effective sympathy is withheld from those on the other side, no matter how innocent they may be—whether a Mr. Field struck down by the assassin for his honest verdict as a juror, or the Curtin sisters still shamefully persecuted for defending their hearth and the gray hairs of their father from the midnight marauders. In the destruction of the landlord's interest in land, land as a security for debts of any kind is made valueless. In the grim holding on of tenants to their little places, cottiers and laborers see a warrant for giving as much trouble as possible to their landlords. Landlords prefer a ruined or a boarded-up piece of property to one which, in occupation, may bring them into odium, and so the ownership of land and houses tends more and more to fall into the hands of those who are callous as to the opinion of either tenant or public.

"And yet all this must be; through no other possible means is there a way out of it," was in effect, in answer to a private communication, the expression of opinion of one of the most high-minded and clear-sighted of Englishmen. That the conclusion of the contest may not be too long delayed is most earnestly to be desired, for the confusion of public and private ideas of rectitude, such as now exist here, is perhaps more demoralizing and irremediable than the disturbance of ordinary warfare would be. The agitation can reach a resting-point only in some form of home government, and in the immediate or prospective abrogation of the dual ownership of land. But it is not an agitation resting upon clearly defined moral lines like that for the abolition of slavery. It is largely necessitated by the abuse of rights upon the acknowledgment of which civilized society rests, not of arbitrary claims opposed to civilization. Every phase of both the present agitation and the coming settlement is therefore full of perplexity to persons not endowed with the happy and sustaining faculty of seeing only one side of the question.

The scenes at the evictions now going on at Glenbeigh and elsewhere are heartrending, and are profoundly stirring public feeling in England. But if extremities are never to be resorted to in Ireland with people who appear unable to pay rent, we shall have a permanent premium on the simulachres of poverty, and an extension of the limits within which too many of our population are satisfied to increase, under circumstances which preclude any but a low degree of civilization. D. B.

CARDUCCI.

ALBERGO PELLEGRINO,
BOLOGNA, January 10, 1887.

Qui
in agosto e settembre MDCCCXIX
albergò
e per la libertà congiurò
Giorgio Gordon lord Byron
che alla Grecia la vita
all'Italia diè il cuore e l'ingegno
del quale
niuno surse tra i moderni più potente
d'accompagnare alla poesia l'azione
niuno più inclito e pietoso
a cantare le glorie e le sventure
del nostro popolo

a ricordo
con gratitudine d'italiano
Francesco Ravaldoni
pose
1 *gennaio* MDCCCLXXXVII.*

THE *qui* means the Pellegrino Hotel in Bologna, where, if police records did not suffice to prove how Byron was dogged by the authorities, suspected of conspiring with secret societies against the Austrians and for the independence of Italy, we have Rogers's kindly memory of their meeting:

"'Twas where hangs aloft
That ancient sign, the Pilgrim welcoming
All who arrive there—all, perhaps, save those
Clad like himself, with staff and scallop-shell,
Those on a pilgrimage. And now approached
Wheels, through the lofty porticoes surrounding
Arch beyond arch, a shelter or a shade
As the sky changes. To the gate they came;
And, ere the man had half his story done,
Mine host received the Master—one long used
To sojourn among strangers, everywhere.
. . . . . Much had passed
Since last we parted; and those five short years,
Much had they told! His clustering locks were turned
Gray; nor did aught recall the youth that swam
From Sestos to Abydos. Yet his voice
Still it was sweet; still from his eye the thought
Flashed lightning-like, nor lingered on the way,
Waiting for words. Far, far into the night
We sat conversing—no unwelcome hour,
The hour we met; and when Aurora rose,
Rising, we climbed the rugged Apennine."

Here at Bologna as in Venice and Ravenna, Byron's heart beat in unison with the dreams of liberty, even as he had sympathized with the Americans and later with the French, till Napoleon turned tyrant. This, more than his poetry, which has never been decently translated, is the hold he has on Italians, whose poets, if you note, from Dante downwards, have always been patriots and *politicians*. These may seem contradictory terms, but they are not so in reality. I remember being much struck with a remark made by Prof. Nichol, author of the 'Astronomy of the Heavens,' in his beautiful observatory at Glasgow: "Our poet Burns," he said, "was a patriot; his 'Scots wha ha' kept country love and liberty alive in the hearts of many generations; so we were never conquered, but of our own free will cast in our lot with England. But Ireland's poet was a love-sick rhymer, and Ireland owes to Tom Moore a heavy portion of her material and moral slavery." Now Italy's nineteenth-century poets have no such crimes to answer for. From Foscolo, who preferred exile to Austrian rule, to Manzoni, who, if too resigned for struggle, spurred on others by his choruses in the "Adelphi;" to Niccolini, who, in his "Arnaldo di Brescia," bearded the priest of Rome; to Berchet, who armed the populace of '48 with the weapons forged in 1821; to Giusti, whose satires cut sharper than bayonets and swords; to Mameli, the soldier-poet, who met his death on the Janiculum while his fellow-soldiers, boy warriors like himself, were shouting his war hymn: "Fratelli d'Italia, l'Italia è desta!"—all, all have loved Italy better than fame, deeplier than life. Nor is Italy's one living poet an exception. Giosuè Carducci, who just now traced in pencil the epigraph which is being engraved on marble for the vestibule of the "Pilgrim's Hotel," is first a patriot then a poet, and I learned to love his poems from the lips of Giorgio Imbriani, who fell in the first hour of the first fighting-day at Dijon, January 19, 1871, when Garibaldi, who had offered all that was left of himself to France, betrayed at Sedan and now invaded, kept the enemy at bay and took the only flag lost by Prussia to France. A patriot, we say, not a partisan; for if he has immortalized Mentana, he has celebrated the feats of the old King, Victor Emanuel, and if he has refused the medal of the Order of Savoy, "because he would have to kneel and with his hand on the Gospels swear fealty to the King and his successors," he has written an Ode to Queen Margaret which will live when the very existence of queenship shall have passed away.

What a tempest in a tea-cup there was when that Ode appeared, and how valiantly in sternest, raciest prose our poet defended himself, first for consenting to be presented to her, and then for singing of her beauty and her grace. The Liberals had been but a short time in power, and the royal couple came to Bologna just after the attempt on the King's life by the mad Passananti at Naples—came accompanied by Benedetto Cairoli, the last of five brothers dead for Italy, and by Zanardelli, the dauntless Brescian, whom the Queen welcomed in the poet's words—

"Lieto del fato Brescia raccolse,
Brescia la forte, Brescia la ferrea,
Brescia leonessa d'Italia,"

adding: "I should like to see Carducci, Italy's greatest living poet."

So up toiled Zanardelli to the fifth story, and leads him to the reception hall.

"And I," quoth Giosuè, "who had seen and sought and studied in the history of the epopee and the drama so many queens, was most curious to see a real living queen interested in poetry and the arts. And in the morning I went to pay my respects to the royal heads, and my little girl said: 'Salute the Queen for me.' Liberty is the child's name, and I thought it was a good augury. . . . I have not the antipathy for the house of Savoy which the Lombard Democrats have, with Cattaneo's pen consigned in pages of fire. The Estensi were all mediocrities, and there are no more of them, and the Medici finished as befitted a family of bankers clothed with the purple, not the cuirass; nor did the cuirass hide the original stain of the Farnesi, who were sons of priests. So, if the Italian people, persuaded that their country could not be unified save by monarchy, called on the scions of Savoy, what fault is it of theirs, O Alberto Mario?*

"The historical and political ambition of the dynasty would probably have been limited to Upper Italy. We, we ourselves, Giuseppe Mazzini at our head, drew them to central Italy, Garibaldi won the South *for* them and won them *to* the South. And now, thanks to the plastic tendency of the human animal to realize personally its own idealities so as to adore or vituperate them at will, the head of the family of Savoy represents Italy and the state. So, *Viva l'Italia*. Valets, uplift the curtain, let us pass to salute the King . . . and the Queen, also, *l'eterno femminino*."

Thus the puritans, who demurred at their poets

*"Here, in August and September, 1819, lodged and for liberty conspired George Gordon Lord Byron, who to Greece gave his life, to Italy his heart and a genius than which never arose in modern times one more potent in uniting action to poetry, more able and tender in singing the glories and the woes of our people.—Placed here in memoriam with an Italian's gratitude, by Francesco Ravaldoni, January 1, 1887."

*This was written in 1880, when Alberto Mario, then editor of the *Lega Democratica*, preached as he had practised (by refusing rank or seat in a monarchical Government) the duties of republicans. He, however, worshipped Carducci as a poet, and on his death-bed whispered: "Do write the history of the Renaissance."

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singing the *Eterno femminino regale*, were treated to some fifteen pages of historical prose to which none ever made reply.

It is difficult to say which of Carducci's poems delight you most. His early ones, brimful of light and brightness, all pagan in their love of life and Grecian in their joy of beauty, enchain and enchant: then his wine and war songs exhilarate and stir. But it is the memories of the battles fought and *lost* for liberty that are the sweetest and, alas, the most untranslatable. Carducci uses so few words and such little ones that it is next to impossible to put them even into the oldest Saxon English. Longfellow could have translated Carducci, and perhaps Robert Browning, and surely he might be tempted to try the twelve sonnets, "Ça ira"—a swifter, terser, more life-like picture of the French Revolution than even our Carlyle's. All Carducci's poems call forth fierce and fiery criticism. I think sometimes that the critics, Bonghi not excluded, exaggerate on purpose to win from him a prose defence. If so, they succeed to their heart's content, as precisely in the case of this "Ça ira." Sometimes his passionate sympathy for the dead heroes makes him steep his pen in aloes to embitter the unearned honors of some "knight of industry"; but this is rare, always an afterthought, which may be left unread without deducting from the completeness of the poem.

Carducci is, without exception, the hardest and the most conscientious worker ever known in Italy. He was born in the Maremma, and left by his father's death quite young, with a mother and sister entirely dependent on him. Then he took to himself a charming, dowerless wife, and kept both families by his pen, preparing editions of classic authors for the press, and next by prose writing. He is now professor of literature at Bologna, and a Wednesday lecture of his is à joy for ever. On other days he makes one of his scholars take his chair and act the professor, while he questions and criticises with the rest. He is now at work on a third edition of his selections from celebrated authors, as we should say. How carefully he selects! how he searches all that previous writers have said about his authors! A wonderful text-book indeed is his for boys in the upper schools, and finer still will be that for the students of the lyceums. I fancy his works now amount to about a dozen volumes of prose and poetry. He may be said to live *by* his prose and *for* his poetry; but, of late years, even for his poems he obtains a fair price, which no one, I suspect, has ever done in Italy since Manzoni laid down his pen.

Carducci is a writer and a poet worthy to be known in America, though he would not thank your correspondent for introducing him by an "epigraph"—a thing he disdains, but has been hitherto too good-natured to refuse, protesting, however, that this is to be the very last.

J. W. M.

Correspondence.

THE SUPPLY OF TEACHERS.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: There are many phases of the problem concerning the "supply of teachers," and they cannot all be treated in a brief paragraph. The matter is complicated not only by an inordinate desire on the part of young girls (sometimes, it must be confessed, unwisely stimulated by parents and instructors) to become teachers on account of the supposed "respectability" which attaches to the calling, but also by their disinclination to accept positions in rural schools, where social opportunities are limited and remuneration is small, and by the additional important fact that nearly all women (and many men) only look upon the work of teaching as a temporary expedient by which they can make a livelihood while awaiting their actual settlement in life.

Perhaps there is no practicable method of dealing with all these complications, which inevitably result in an immense supply of inefficient, indifferent, well-nigh worthless teachers, and comparatively few of the first class. Your correspondent "B." seems to me correct in saying that "arbitrarily cutting down the numbers of those who are trying to prepare themselves will, under the present system, afford no proper relief." But is the case entirely without remedy? Cannot the principles of the civil-service reform be applied with some prospects of relief at least? The power of removal must be left unchecked in the interest of efficiency—because, while it may be sometimes abused, it is not here that the chief abuses exist, and without it school boards would be well nigh powerless to enforce faithful work. But there is certainly great room for improvement in the conditions of admission to the teacher's calling, and it can best be secured by making that admission depend upon the approval of *professional teachers*. Commissions of such should be established under the authority of the State, for the examination of applicants, classes should be designated for different kinds of schools, and no person should be allowed to draw a cent of the public money who does not hold a certificate from the examiners corresponding to the work he is hired to do. The examiners should, of course, be entirely independent of local school boards. This measure would be a welcome relief to the appointing power, for at once an immense share of the elements of "pressure" and "influence" in behalf of unfit candidates would be eliminated.

Something of this, in fact, the State is already doing, through normal schools, but even in Massachusetts a large number of teachers are not graduates of and have not attended the normal schools, while all over the country so-called normal schools are often not at all what they are supposed to be, but in very many cases are simply doing the work of academies and high schools, with perhaps a small amount of incidental instruction in methods of teaching, and nowhere are they professional schools in the same sense as medical and law schools.

W. P. Beckwith,

Adams, Mass., January 25, 1887.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Is there not some depth to this question of "Supply of Teachers," discussed in last week's *Nation*? Is teaching regarded and paid as a profession, and is not State legislation seriously defective in this regard? Are not both the public and the teacher to blame—the teacher for her low idea of her profession, and the public for its indifference to the details of school work?

It is remarkable that, after over twenty years of peace, more progress has not been made educationally, with reference to efficient teachers, permanency of office, examination of applicants, etc. Civil-service reform, now grafted into our body politic, seems to be a stranger to pedagoguedom. While there is a science of teaching, little of it gets into the schools, and Comenius, Rousseau, Pestalozzi, and Froebel are, to the rank and file, merely names. It is a common joke among us that the mention of Rousseau's 'Émile' or Goethe's 'Wilhelm Meister' to the average teacher usually calls forth a stare of inquiry. Pestalozzi and Froebel proved that there is an art of teaching. A multitude of men have proved that there is a Science of Education, and a few disciples of education have shown that there is an Art of Teaching. How noble a thing to write on the theory and principles of education! How ignoble a thing to try to put those principles into practice!

But is there a profession of teaching? The Chicago *Tribune* says there is no profession of teaching. The number of persons engaged in teaching, according to the Census of 1880, exceeds the sum of all the lawyers, physicians, surgeons, clergymen, and journalists; the former amounting to 227,710, and the latter to 226,811. Swett of San Francisco says that, out of the 300,000 teachers in the United States, not one out of ten is a graduate of a normal school; that, of the other nine-tenths, few have become skilled teachers; that in a few cities only normal graduates are employed. The training schools connected with public schools, and which are now becoming common, deal, I believe, only with primary work. At best there is only a part or remnant of a profession of teaching in this country. The State laws sanction this view of it. Many States require an annual examination. Throughout the Union, teachers are elected for one year. Is there any State in the Union requiring training on the part of the teacher before teaching? Where is it? Still the popular idea exists (incomprehensible to a German) that any one can teach who can get a certificate. Then, a normal-school diploma and a life-diploma do not pass from State to State, although the legal diploma practically does. We are considered as unprofessional educational vagrants. We are compelled to shift, to fly for our lives, yet taxed and examined at every turn (like travellers through Italy), as if we were transporting dynamite in our pockets. This is worse than a high protective tariff! Then the short terms of school officials, low salaries, and the tendency to employ the cheapest, are another slur on the would-be profession.

Every number of the *Nation* brings us a communication on civil-service reform. The cardinal importance of fitness, retention in office, and advancement according to merit apply exactly to our present educational needs, and with crushing force. The educational church throws open her doors to all. The State establishes practically no educational limitation for applicants. Iowa has ordered her saloons closed (transferred them to the drug-stores), but lets Tom, Dick, and Harry instruct her young. We need "protection" here. Claude R. Buchanan.

Wilton, Ia., January 24, 1887.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Your item in regard to the New York City Normal School graduates deserves attention, as it may add to the arguments continually used against the training of teachers. I cannot speak of the difficulties the New York graduates meet in procuring situations, but I am tolerably conversant with other normal schools. The graduates of Oswego and Bridgewater, for instance, are in great demand. The Cook County Normal School graduated seventy-eight last June; seventy of them immediately took good places in the graded schools of the county, and Mr. A. G. Lane, the County Superintendent of Schools, informs me that he could have found places for one hundred more. These places—the hundred—had to be filled by inferior teachers because skilled teachers could not be found. The remaining eight of the seventy-eight were offered places out of the county, and six of them accepted, two preferring not to teach at present.

I am quite sure that if I had four hundred graduates yearly, they could all find good places. One day last week I received four requests for teachers—salaries from $500 to $900. The Cooke County Normal School is no exception to the rule. There is a great demand for good teachers. There are, however, thousands of incompetent, untrained teachers waiting until political influ-

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ence shall put them into places. Please revise your opinion about normal schools.

FRANCIS W. PARKER.

NORMAL PARK, ILL., January 22, 1887.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: I am at a loss to understand Col. Higginson's statement that there is a lack of teachers in this State. A service of between four and five years on a school committee has proved to me that there are enough unemployed teachers to supply all the schools in the Commonwealth. Certainly that is the condition of things in this section. There lies before me, as I write, a "list of approved candidates" for teacherships in Salem which contains the names of fifty-one, all graduates of the State Normal School. Some of them have been waiting ever since 1880 for schools. School committeemen are constantly besieged by young women seeking positions, many of them finely educated.

WINFIELD S. NEVINS.

SALEM, MASS., January 22, 1887.

AN AMERICAN TEACHER IN IRELAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: A few months ago at the centenary of one of the principal Quaker schools in Ireland, Mount-Mellick, interesting mention was made by several of the old scholars of a certain American citizen, Samuel Prescott Dole, who, some forty years ago, for a few weeks taught at the school. Nothing was heard of him after his departure, and a very general desire was expressed for some further information regarding him. He was a man of original genius and wide information, and had travelled on foot over Europe; and the belief was expressed that if he had lived he must have attained to distinction in his native land. Could any of your readers give any information concerning his previous or after life?

Yours truly,

ALFRED WEBB.

DUBLIN, January 19, 1887.

THE DEGREE OF A.B.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Apropos of your editorial remark upon Prof. Palmer's answer to his critics in regard to what he calls a "petty difficulty," I may perhaps be allowed to say, in my own and others' behalf, that it is a very poor answer to those who claim that the Bachelor's degree ought not to be disturbed in the possession of its ancient privileges. If it is a matter of small consequence, the innovators will act wisely by leaving the conservatives in possession of the old and betaking themselves to the new; the latter do not think it a matter of small importance. I am a thorough believer in the elective system, yet I do not believe that any one is entitled to the degree of A.B. whose collegiate training is not largely based on the ancient languages. All the arguments I have yet seen from those who advocate the giving of this degree to indicate simply the completion of a four-years' course of study, remind me of those used by the wolf when he had determined to eat the lamb: having made up their minds to do a thing—for reasons of expediency, perhaps—they justify their action by the best arguments within the reach of a bad cause.

Most persons who use the terms "definite" and "precise," when speaking of the classical course, intend them to be understood in a general, not in a mathematical, sense. And it may surely be claimed for the "old-fashioned" degree of A.B. that it, at worst, represents a minimum of Greek and Latin, mathematics, and history. It was definite almost in the same sense that M.D. or B.D. or LL.B. are. These degrees likewise "take an individual variation of meaning for every one who wins them"; but no one will need to ask the winner of a LL.B. whether he claims to be a lawyer or a theologian.

But, granting that the A.B. of twenty years ago was indefinite, does anybody claim that the new system makes the case any better? Nobody is likely to do that. Or will some of our colleges say in substance to the father, Twenty-five years ago we made you a Bachelor of Arts for work that was somewhat indefinite, but we expect to make the case clearer to the public by giving the same degree to your son for work of an entirely different character? If the old degree is so indefinite and meaningless, it is strange that any of the reformed want it all. We should suppose that they would wish the superiority of the new education to be indicated by some appropriate degree.

Every collegiate degree given twenty-five years ago claimed to represent a certain amount of knowledge, and indicated roughly the chief sources of that knowledge. The Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Philosophy had studied little or no Greek, more rarely no Latin. In no case did the degree claim to represent even a minimum of culture. In this sense all degrees were and always will be more or less indefinite. But let us *not* mix up *two things* that are so easily kept separate, and which ought to be so kept. All experience proves that now and then a student only wastes time by trying to learn a foreign language, and that he may nevertheless attain a fair degree of scholarship in other departments. Some students who make little progress in the dead languages do fairly well with the living. The mind of one learner may be most effectively trained by means of one science, that of another, by another. And it is not asking our college authorities to do an unreasonable thing when we demand that they shall indicate as nearly as may be the sources of the training received by the graduates they send forth. It is the common error of new converts to claim more for their system than its merits justify.

CHAS. W. SUPER.

[The reformers who decline to relinquish the degree of A.B., with all that it implies, to the conservatives, may contend that it has long meant nothing more than graduation from a higher institution of learning. It threw some light on the probable courses of study of the recipient, but none at all on the quality of his instruction or the height of culture and discipline attained. For all practical purposes it was necessary to affix the name of the college or "university" conferring the degree. This is still and will always be necessary, and the conservatives have a complete remedy as against Harvard by leaving to that college the naked A.B., and uniformly writing A.B. Yale, A.B. Princeton, etc., etc. No one asked that Harvard should abandon the degree of M.D. when it resolved to examine for admission to its Medical School only those who had had a liberal education. This really put a new and higher value on the degree, though, as before, it simply stood for graduation from the School. —ED. NATION.]

"RELIABLE," ETC.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: As quoted by your correspondent "J. W. A.," in No. 1123, Bishop Coxe denounces *reliable* as an "abominable barbarism." It is lucky, this time, for those who endure the word, that its assailant is restrained by a sense of episcopal dignity. He does not, indeed, go the length of saying, as the *Saturday Review* said only the other day, that the man who uses *reliable* "is a donkey and a vulgarian." Still, in calling it an "abominable barbarism," he does not, perhaps, divide himself by very many leagues from those who season shallow philology with euphemistic billingsgate. At all events, he faces it neither with judicial calmness nor with competent information. For my own part, even though I have found it to be respectably analogical, and though I have proved that it has extensively the sanction of good usage—the sole determinant, in general, of what is acceptable in language—my affection for it is not at all consuming. To get at the truth about it is all that concerns me.

Nine years ago I published a long list of noteworthy writers who had not scorned *reliable* and its derivatives. To that list I now add Mr. Thos. Arnold, the Rev. S. Baring-Gould, Mr. Walter Bagehot, the Rev. J. S. Brewer, the Rev. Dr. J. W. Donaldson, Messrs. Robinson Ellis, James Grant, W. R. Greg, James Hinton, Dr. W. B. Hodgson, the Rev. Dr. F. G. Lee, Archbishop Longley, Col. G. B. Malleson, Mr. J. C. Morrison, the Rev. Frederick Oakeley, Mr. Richard A. Proctor, the Duke of Somerset, Mr. Henry Sweet, Sir G. O. Trevelyan, Mr. Anthony Trollope, Dr. W. G. Ward, and Sir Monier Williams. As to the age of *reliable*, it was pointed out by a lady, in 1877, that it occurs in a letter, dated as long ago as 1624, written by the Rev. Richard Montagu, afterwards Bishop of Chichester, and then Bishop of Ely. From 1624 it apparently slept until it was resuscitated, or redevised, by Coleridge in 1800.

I now come to another point. That Bishop Coxe is so ill supplied with relevant facts as he evinces himself to be regarding expressions like Lord Macaulay's "to fully appreciate," indicates either that his reading has been most limited, or else that he has read most inattentively. "J. W. A.," I should surmise, has seen, though he does not name, the paper in the *American Journal of Philology*, Vol. iii, where I discuss such phrases at length. Among the users of them there mentioned is the Rev. Dr. John Donne—a dean only—who is now transformed into "Bishop Doane." In Donne's 'Polydoron' (1631), I have lately come upon "to truely judge," etc., six times. In addition to the instances, similar to those given above, which I collected in 1882, beginning with Wyclif, I now know of others, viz.: from Margaret Duchess of Savoy (1513), the Rev. Richard Bernard (1598), Edward Grimstone (1604), G. Woodcocke (1606), the Rev. Richard Carpenter (1642), the Rev. Dr. Henry More (1681), the Rev. Myles Davies (1716), Jethro Tull (1739), W. Horsley (1746), the *New Spectator* (1784), Robert Southey (1813), H. T. Colebrooke (1818), Thomas Carlyle (1831 and 1850) William Beckford (1835), "George Eliot" (1876), and James Spedding (1879). Bishop Coxe need, then, no longer suspect that the locution referred to travelled to Great Britain from American "tap-rooms," as he suggests that it did. In his hasty opinion it is, besides being "vulgar," "illogical." Elsewhere I have shown that it is just the reverse. Logic, pretty clearly, is not the Bishop's forte.

"In this connection" is "a New England phrase" and a "very illogical provincialism," asserts "J. W. A." It is neither; and I could make good my contention. But here I must stop, as this letter is already too long.—Your obedient servant, F. H.

MARLESFORD, ENGLAND, January 20, 1887.

BROOKS'S HISTORY OF MEDFORD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In 1855 the late Rev. Charles Brooks compiled a history of Medford, Mass. A portion

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of the edition, it is said, was destroyed by fire, and the book has for some years been quite a rarity. Now a new edition has been issued by Mr. James M. Usher, who has altered and amended it according to his own views.

Probably I am not an impartial judge of the result, for the following reason: To Brooks's history there was appended a genealogical register of families, entirely prepared by me. This is now reprinted with sundry omissions and trifling additions. But Mr. Usher has reproduced all the errors and omissions of my work, although he was offered the use of the extended and most valuable corrections made for me by the late Thomas B. Wyman, jr.

Finding the new history so lamentably and unnecessarily deficient on this point, I can only view with suspicion other changes which I have not had time to examine. I can only regret that Mr. Brooks's work was not so reprinted that one could tell for what portion he was responsible.—Yours very truly, WILLIAM H. WHITMORE.

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST SILVER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The people on the Pacific Coast who are continually complaining that Eastern bankers and business men discriminate against silver, and cause the Government at Washington to discriminate against it, do not seem to realize that "they condemn themselves, for they that judge do the same things." In Oregon and California every promissory note of the banks and money-lenders is made payable, principal and interest, in gold coin. All promissory notes, indeed, and usually sheriffs' sales, are made with this condition. The same custom prevails, as I am informed, in Nevada, as it does to a considerable extent in the Territories west of the Rocky Mountains.

This is a discrimination against silver which I never heard of in the Eastern States, where everybody accepts legal tenders of the United States in payment of debts. During the suspension of specie payments it was regarded in Oregon as a breach of commercial honor to pay a debt in greenbacks. To "greenback" a creditor was a commercial crime, almost; and the victims of such an atrocity had their revenge by posting the offenders in the black list of the advertising columns of the newspapers. The merchants made great profits by buying their goods with greenbacks in the East and selling them here for gold. In no part of the country have the masses of the people suffered so much from cheap money as in these sections, where the popular demand for it is so great. S. B. P.

PORTLAND, OREGON, January 22.

THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE FISHERIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Will the *Nation* kindly state *to what extent the United States*, as represented by the present Administration, is to blame for the present fisheries imbroglio, and thus enlighten the rather confused state of mind of

A REGULAR SUBSCRIBER.

CAMBRIDGE, MASS., January 26, 1887.

[The present fisheries imbroglio results from the termination of the fisheries clauses of the Treaty of Washington, in pursuance of notice given by the United States before the present Administration came into office.—ED. NATION.]

A SLIP OF THE PEN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: I am informed that the latest number of the *Nation* refers to the magazine recently published in the interests of the Agassiz Association, and for all lovers of nature and science, as the "*Red Cross.*" In consequence, we are receiving inquiries for the *Red Cross Magazine.* Will you not kindly state that the name of the new magazine is the *Swiss Cross?* The name is taken from the badge of the Agassiz Association, which in turn was adopted in honor of Louis Agassiz. The "Red Cross" Society is illustrious in another field, and renders aid to the suffering in war and peace. HARLAN H. BALLARD.

50 SOUTH STREET, PITTSFIELD, MASS., January 28, 1887.

A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Permit me to correct the two inaccuracies which occur in your mention of 'The Photographic Times Annual' on page 77 of the *Nation* for January 27. Your reviewer there states: "The editor of the *Photographic Times* of this city has compiled from it an 'American Annual of Photography and Photographic Times Almanac' for 1887."

Allow me to say that the articles of which this Annual is composed are original contributions, written expressly for its pages, and that the book was edited by Mr. C. W. Canfield of this city, and not by me.—Respectfully yours,

W. I. LINCOLN ADAMS.

NO. 423 BROOME STREET, NEW YORK, January 29, 1887.

[We were led into our wrong inference by the opening sentences of one of the special contributions, and by the general aspect of the smaller pieces which make the "filling" of the Annual.—ED. NATION.]

THE LATE GENERAL STONE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In your issue of January 27 you say of the late Gen. Charles P. Stone: "After the fight at Ball's Bluff he was court-martialled, and was imprisoned for nearly a year in Fort Lafayette. He asserted that he was treated very unfairly."

The unfairness and injustice of his treatment consisted not in imprisonment after trial, as these words seem to imply, but in the fact that he was arrested, left without definite charges, refused the court-martial which the laws allowed and which he again and again demanded; and that, when released without any opportunity to clear himself in the eyes of the world, neither he nor any of his friends could find the slightest evidence why the authorities had suffered a loyal soldier to be subjected to prolonged imprisonment, without trial or opportunity of defence against those popular attacks in the press to which his sudden arrest necessarily gave birth.

That this is an accurate account of the way in which Gen. Stone was "unfairly treated," any history of the war written since its close will bear evidence.—Very sincerely yours,

EDWARD M. PARKER.

CONCORD, N. H.

Notes.

R. WORTHINGTON CO. have issued the third and concluding part of the 'Greville Memoirs,' 1852–1860, in two volumes. The same work is announced to be published in a single volume by D. Appleton & Co., along with 'Brazil, its Condition and Prospects,' by Gen. C. C. Andrews, formerly Consul-General in that country, and 'Miss Churchill: a Study,' by Christian Reid.

Macmillan & Co.'s spring announcements include 'Romantic Love and Personal Beauty: their Development, Causal Relations, Historic and National Peculiarities,' by Henry T. Finck; 'The Song of the Nibelung,' translated into English verse by Alfred E. Foster-Barham; 'The Life of Peter De Wint,' by J. Comyns Carr, illustrated with twenty photogravures; an illustrated edition of Mahaffy's 'Rambles and Studies in Greece'; 'Memoir of Sir Peter Scratchley, High Commissioner of New Guinea,' by C. Kinloch Cooke; 'Life of James Fraser, Bishop of Manchester,' by Thomas Hughes; and 'Letters between Carlyle and Goethe,' edited by Charles Eliot Norton.

J. B. Lippincott Co. have in press 'Ornamental Interiors, Ancient and Modern,' by J Moyr Smith; 'Half Hours with American History,' selections by Charles Morris, in two volumes; 'The Nursing and Care of the Nervous and the Insane,' by Chas. K. Mills, M.D.; and 'Manual of North American Birds, for the Naturalist and Sportsman,' by Robert Ridgway.

Charles Scribner's Sons will take over the entire list of Hebrew and Semitic text-books heretofore published by the American Publication Society of Hebrew, Chicago, including the Hebrew grammars of Prof. Wm. R. Harper. They announce two novels as in press, 'A Child of the Century,' by John T. Wheelwright; and 'The Jesuit's Ring,' a romance of Mt. Desert, by A. A. Hayes.

From *Modern Language Notes* for February we learn that Prof. T. W. Hunt of Princeton has prepared a treatise on 'English Prose and Prose Writers,' now in the press of A. C. Armstrong & Son. It is intended as an aid to the higher instruction in our prose development.

Funk & Wagnalls will shortly take in hand a popular history of the State of New York just completed by Benson J. Lossing.

'A Half Century in Salem,' reminiscences by Mrs. Nathaniel Silsbee, is announced by Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

We are glad to have the assurance of the *Publishers' Weekly* that the Annual Catalogue projected for the benefit of the trade will be supported, and that its manufacture is already begun.

G. P. Putnam's Sons are about to publish 'The Conflict of East and West in Egypt,' by Dr. John Eliot Bowen of the *Independent.* The articles that compose it appeared in the *Political Science Quarterly.*

It is a pleasure to receive from the office of the Geological Survey of New Jersey three more sheets of the great Atlas of that State, leaving but four of the total seventeen to be issued. These we may expect in the course of the next year. Sheets 8, 11, and 12 are all of sections bordering on the Delaware River. The first shows the line from Trenton to Bordentown, and the district to the north and east, embracing New Brunswick and the greater part of the course of the Raritan River. The third continues on from Bordentown to Burlington, including the territory to the south and east (the Mount Holly section). The second includes Burlington, Camden, and Philadelphia, with the back country traversed by the great railway routes to Atlantic City and Cape May. The execution of these maps is in all respects on a level with the high standard of their predecessors.

Prof. G. Stanley Hall of the Johns Hopkins University puts forth a prospectus of a quarterly *American Journal of Psychology*, to be edited by himself. It will contain original contributions of a scientific character; papers from other journals, translated if necessary; digests and reviews of significant books, good and bad. Its main object "will be to record the progress of scientific psychology, and special prominence will be given to methods of research." Remittances and business communications should be addressed to N. Murray, at the University, Baltimore.

The analytical index to the second volume of

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the *New Princeton Review* (A. C. Armstrong & Son) is an improvement upon the first, chiefly in the way of multiplying entries of the same topics. Thus, Mormonism is entered in its own proper alphabetical order, under "Origin of a Great Delusion" (its article title), under Public Questions, and under Religion and Morality. This would seem to be enough for the ordinary inquirer, and yet History should not in consistency have been deprived of this topic. The table of contents now plays a very insignificant part—hardly more than that of showing at a glance the authors of the signed articles—and is unduly neglected. Under Criticisms, Notes, and Reviews, for example, it would be easy to display far better than is done in the index the titles of books reviewed.

The second paper in the *Law Quarterly Review* for January is an article by J. H. G. Bergne, entitled 'The International Copyright Union.' Mr. Bergne, who is Superintendent of the Treaty Department of the Foreign Office, was sent as the second delegate to the Berne conference of 1885, and was, together with Sir Francis O. Adams, authorized to sign, on behalf of Great Britain and her colonies, the literary-property treaty entered into at Berne in September last. He first notices, from an Englishman's standpoint, the various attempts to secure some sort of copyright arrangement between England and this country, but nothing which is new to American readers is presented. A mistake is made in charging that Mr. Dorsheimer's bill (presented to the House of Representatives, January 8, 1884) retained the "objectionable feature of compulsory manufacture in the United States." The bill contained no such provision, being simply a reciprocity measure, stipulating only that the foreign author should, for the sake of securing his copyright, do what the domestic law demands of an American citizen, namely, record his claim of copyright, and deposit two copies of his work. The remainder of Mr. Bergne's article, which reviews English legislation concerning international copyright, is valuable. His experience as a delegate to the Berne conferences enables him to explain the (by no means plainly stated) provisions of the international copyright act recently passed by the English Parliament; and he does so at considerable length.

There are no articles in the January *Antiquary* (New York: D. G. Francis) of very conspicuous merit, but several of considerable interest, especially, we should say, Mr. Bickley's "Remains of Old Woking," the continuation of former papers. There is perhaps nothing in the number more generally interesting than the short paragraph, "The Way Stonehenge was Built," containing an extract from the *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*, showing how huge monoliths are conveyed by the Nagá Hill people. They "are dragged up in a kind of sledge, formed out of a forked tree, in which the stone is lowered, and then carefully lashed with canes and creepers, and to this the men, sometimes to the number of several hundreds, attach themselves in a long line, and, by means of putting rollers underneath, they pull it along until it has been brought up to the spot where it has been decided to erect it. Here a small hole is then dug to receive the lower end of the stone, and, the sledge being tilted up on end, the lashings are cut adrift, and the stone slides into position."

The *Magazine of American History* makes an excellent beginning of its new volume, the seventeenth. The articles in the numbers for January and February that possess a solid worth are numerous. Mr. S. G. W. Benjamin has two papers, entitled "A Group of Pre-Revolutionary Editors: Beginnings of Journalism in America," and "Notable Editors between 1776 and 1800." Without vouching for their accuracy at all points, we can recommend them as entertaining, and as being profusely illustrated with facsimiles of early newspapers and portraits of editors, many very rare. We notice, by the way, in the Pittsburgh *Commercial Gazette* of January 29, a communication alleging that a portrait of Maj. Ebenezer Denny is made to do duty, in Mr. Benjamin's second paper, for Joseph Dennie, editor of the *United States Gazette*. And when Mr. Benjamin tells of "Master Carter," in Boston, saying to his pupils, "Boys, the war's begun, and you may run!" is he not thinking of Master John Lovell, of the Public Latin School, whose formula of dismissal was—"War's begun and school's done"? From Ottawa, Mr. J. L. Payne sends a contribution of much value, based on the Dominion archives, which shows that before the close of the Revolution the leading Vermonters, including Ethan Allen and his brother, were playing a risky game of bluff with Congress, by intrigues looking to a union with Canada if Vermont's claim to be an independent State should be finally rejected, in the interest of New York. The evidence is new and evidently trustworthy, and curious enough.

Some sensible observations on the teaching of Latin, by Principal Peck of the Providence High School, will be found in the Syracuse *Academy* for January. An extra number of this useful periodical, bearing the same date, contains a translation of the last chapter of Prof. Friedrich Paulsen's 'History of the Higher Education at the German Schools and Universities,' by Mr. Samuel Thurber.

The *Scottish Geographical Magazine* for January contains an interesting paper by Sir Charles Warren on the present condition of Palestine. Though not very hopeful in tone, it asserts that the influx of Europeans is altering the country for the better. There are "places where cultivation has been fostered by societies, and where the whole climate has altered." The plains are in great danger from the vast billows of sand which are gradually rolling inwards from the sea-shore. In the north they are thirty to forty feet high, while in the south "they have reached the height of several hundred feet, and have quite covered up the old Land of Goshen." The peasantry he regards, principally from a survival of the ancient names and the remnant of idolatrous worship, as direct descendants of the original inhabitants who were spared by the Hebrews after their conquest. The number of Jews is slowly but steadily increasing, though the greater part of those who return "only go there to die, when at an advanced age." They are divided into two great sects, the Ashkenasim, who come from Germany, Russia, and Poland, and the Sepherdim, who come from Morocco. These are exiles from Spain, speak the Spanish language, and are agriculturists. They also assert that "they were colonists in Spain at the time of the Crucifixion, and are in no way responsible for the rejection of the Messiah," and some of them at least believe that "the second advent of the Christians will be the coming of the Messiah to the Jews." A paper on the "Clyde Sea-area" is accompanied by a bathy-orographical chart, so colored as to show very clearly the depth of the sea and the height of the adjacent land.

The new volume of the Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society begins with a paper by Mr. Hugh H. Romilly on the "Islands of the New Britain Group." The physical characteristics of the islands are described, as well as the extraordinary currents in the neighboring waters which render navigation extremely difficult. There are several volcanoes, one of which is still partially active, and "at its base the sea-water is so hot for several hundred yards from it that it is impossible to hold the hand in it," while at a little distance there "is a boiling river of strong sulphurous water." The islands are very fertile, and the natives show great skill in cultivation, but are obliged to choose as sites for their gardens almost inaccessible places, such as fissures in rocks on the sides of steep precipices, from fear of their neighbors. It is very difficult to get from the people information in regard to themselves, as they not only dislike to be questioned, but "there are some customs they are absolutely forbidden to talk of, and some words they dare not name." Some account is given of their peculiar marriage laws, and of the strange ceremony of the duk-duk, which Mr. Romilly was fortunate enough to witness. Cannibalism, though he had no personal knowledge of it, he believed to be commonly practised. On this point his opinion was confirmed, in the discussion which followed the reading of the paper, by the Rev. Geo. Brown, for many years a missionary in the islands, as well as upon the singular relations of a man to his mother-in-law. Referring to the statement that she was to be avoided in every possible way, he said "that the most solemn oath a man could take was, 'Sir, if I am not telling the truth, I hope I may shake hands with (or touch the hand of) my mother-in-law.'"

The *Studio* (New York) begins the year with an interesting table of contents, and furnishes two illustrations in the line of its cautious but promising experiments with "process" reproduction. The editor is able to announce that M. Rajon, the eminent French etcher, now in this country, is engaged upon a plate after a drawing made by himself expressly for the *Studio*. This number, by the way, contains some very useful practical remarks by M. Rajon on the subject of his art. The March *Studio* is to contain an etching made for it by Mr. Sidney L. Smith, after a pastel portrait of John Quincy Adams, made at the Hague in 1783, when Adams was in his teens. Of this series we notice that the *Studio* furnishes prints in three forms—ordinary, large-paper, and numbered proofs on India paper.

Thackeray's 'Virginians,' in two volumes, and 'Philip,' in two more, extend the red-backed handy or pocket edition of this writer's works, now publishing in London by Smith, Elder & Co., and in Philadelphia by J. B. Lippincott Co. Owing to the identity of some of the characters in both stories, 'A Shabby Genteel Story'—an unfinished beginning of a novel—is here prefixed to 'Philip.'

The same American house sends us the first six volumes of the Waverley novels issued by them in conjunction with the Messrs. Black of Edinburgh—a library edition—octavo volumes in dark-blue stamped cloth, with typography in greatest possible contrast to the small letter that distinguishes (and depreciates) the Thackeray just mentioned. Here all is bold, open, handsome, a delight to the eye. There are but two illustrations to each volume—a frontispiece and a title-page vignette—engraved on steel, and executed for the edition of 1876; the only thing not new in the appearance of this issue. The six volumes before us comprise 'Waverley,' 'Guy Mannering,' 'The Antiquary,' 'Rob Roy,' 'Old Mortality,' and 'The Black Dwarf, and Legend of Montrose.' The price per volume is very moderate.

The February *Century* announces the hope—perhaps we should say the prospect—that the friends of the American School at Athens will secure as permanent director Dr. Charles Waldstein of the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, England, a native of New York, as is well known. To this end strenuous efforts are being made to raise a permanent fund of $100,000 to $200,000, and contributions are earnestly solicited. They may be forwarded to Mr. Frederic J. de Peyster, No. 7 East Forty-second Street, or to Messrs.

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William Alexander Smith & Co., No. 58 Wall Street, New York.

Dr. Sterrett, whom some would like to see made the Director of the School, is pleasantly thanked, as if already such, for scholarly courtesy, by Mommsen in Part I. of the fifth edition of the 'Fontes Iuris Romani Antiqui,' by Bruns. In a foot-note on p. 150 he says: "Tymandenorum oppidum (hodie Yaztü Veran) in Pisidia situm est tribus horis orientem versus ab Apollonia. Ibi qui titulum repperit *praefectus instituto Atheniensi Americanorum* Sterrett dedit nobis, et ut hoc loco prodiret liberaliter permisit." The italics are ours.

The "Nouvelle Bibliothèque Classique" of the Librairie des Bibliophiles (Paris: Rue Saint-Honoré, 338) now numbers about 50 12mo volumes. It is beautifully printed on excellent paper and is sold at three francs a volume. One of the latest announcements is "Œuvres choisies de Voltaire," which ought to fill at least twelve volumes. The last publication, 'Les Essais de Montaigne,' edited by MM. Motheau and Jouaust, deserves special attention. The text followed, as in the large 8vo edition by the same editors, is that of 1588, the last printed in the author's lifetime; but the great advantage of the present work is that it presents on the same page not only this important text, but also all the additions and new readings of the edition of 1595, the one commonly received and reprinted. Thus for the first time the student of Montaigne can conveniently make a study of the thought and language of this author as modified by him in the manuscript notes which were used by Mlle. de Gournay, his daughter by adoption, when she prepared her text of 1595. The present edition of the essays will be in seven volumes, of which two have already been published. There will be a glossary and an index in the last.

M. Charles Barthélemy's 'Les Quarante Fauteuils de l'Académie Française' (Paris: Gautier; Boston: Schoenhof) may be useful to those who wish to know the sequence of the Academicians from 1634 down to the present time. According to a fiction of speech, every new member is said to occupy the *fauteuil* of his predecessor, so that an uninterrupted succession is established from Victor Hugo, for instance, back to Corneille and Maynard. The succession, however, is not fully agreed upon, for there was a break in the continuity of the French Academy at the time of the Revolution, which gives rise to some confusion. M. Barthélemy ignores this, or rather seems not to know it clearly. Without going far, if he had carefully read the article on the Academy written by Sainte-Beuve for the 'Paris Guide' in 1867, he might have given more trustworthy information. His biographical sketches are very meagre, though for many of the "Immortals" who have no other merit than their academic title, they are long enough.

—The February *Atlantic* is distinguished by Mr. Lowell's long poem in those terse couplets, of the Hudibras style, which lend themselves so readily to satirical wit, and are quite as capable of pathos. There is plenty of the first in this review of the new 'doxies of the age, and there is also a touch of the last in the poet's retrospective attachment to the bass-viols and congregational singing of the old régime. Whittier also contributes some lines, and William Winter represents the poets of middle age with a good many well-turned stanzas; and the predominant tone of belles-lettres that is the characteristic of this magazine is sustained, besides, by a very interesting sketch of the first literary work of Cooper, with some glimpses of his naval and gardening tastes, by Susan Fenimore Cooper. The solid article is by John Fiske, who has come, in his series of American history papers, to the Federal Convention, and analyzes the situation at the start, and the compromises by means of which the delegates established a working basis in the earlier stages of their proceedings. In supporting the plans and the rule of the Federalists in 1789, Mr. Fiske takes occasion to suggest a parallel between the needs of the country then and in 1861, and he remarks that, as it was well for the Jeffersonian policy to succeed that first period of centralization, so "now that, in our own day, the disruptive forces have been even more thoroughly and effectually overcome, it is time for the principles of that party to be reasserted with fresh emphasis." "An Experience in the Island of Capri" is an incident of the strange trouble that sometimes arises in foreign travel, and contains an instance of rare and touching humanity. We notice that Mr. Crawford's Russian story does not touch Russian soil as yet, but goes on in Constantinople and Germany; and as it is about to be transferred to Persia, so far, at least, it is not yet open to the recent criticism on it of dealing with places and people with which the author has had no means of direct acquaintance.

—*Harper's* comes to us with more than its usual profusion of illustrations, the more prominent being Abbey's and Parsons's designs for Cowley's sentimental poem, "The Wish," Frank Millet's sketches of winter-campaign scenes with the Cossacks, the beautiful views of the Acadian land, and some cuts of moose-hunting. The most attractive contribution is from Mr. Warner's veteran hand, in description of the lagoons for which the Acadians exchanged their short summers and long winters, and where they seem to have continued their patriarchal life in a climate much more fitted to their nature, without any substantial change in their simple character. His account is full of enticement for the unwary tourist, with its atmosphere of a Louisiana April and its landscape of a prairie Venice, while the great salt mine on the singular high island, and the home of Jefferson the actor, give variety to the interest. Sir Edward J. Reed concludes his account of the navies of the Continent in a tone of advice which seems directed to the English, to the effect that their navy should be superior in every calculable point to those of other nations. He shows little faith in the heavily-armed and inadequately protected ships in which Italy, for example, has especially strengthened her navy (though he allows that they were a good "reply" to her antagonists), inasmuch as, unless the fight is short, such vessels will probably sustain such injury as to lose their power of speed, and will then very likely turn bottom up. At the same time he warns the United States against expending her efforts on fast cruisers, which may prey upon commerce, but are of no use to fight with against modern ships of war. Mr. Millet's paper contains several interesting episodes and one scene of brutal flogging. Mr. Howells begins a new novel, which opens at Harvard on class-day.

—In *Scribner's*, Mr. Washburne's Paris reminiscences and the extracts from Gouverneur Morris's diary continue to hold the first place of interest. The story of the siege is told in the former paper principally by means of extracts from Mr. Washburne's diary. The scenes are very vivid, and in particular the changing look of the streets, the gathering and rapid melting away of the revolutionary mobs, and the general orderliness of the city, are admirably sketched, while the entrance of the Prussians is as well described, with a few strokes, as could be wished. The personal anecdotes are comparatively few, and it is rather on the general traits of the siege inside the walls than on special incidents that the writer's eye was fixed. The Gouverneur Morris papers yield in this instalment a more defined picture of the aristocratic society of the first Revolution, and also of the diarist himself, whose sagacity, brilliancy, and perfect possession of himself and his faculties grow more marked; he was a thoroughly facile man. The leading article in point of illustration is a most interesting one by Mr. John C. Ropes, who has made a study of Cæsar's busts and statues, and has reproduced the authentic likenesses and some others from photographs, many of which he had made himself; the order is chronological, and the series, which is slightly and modestly annotated by the collector, is a very impressive one, by virtue of the character the likenesses show and the strong and rapid development of the face in twenty or twenty-five years. "J. S. of Dale" begins a novelette, Mr. Brander Matthews contributes a timely sketch of Coquelin, and Prof. J. R. Soley deals with the whole question of our naval efficiency both in a critical and a constructive spirit. It is to be noted that he protests strongly against promotion by seniority, as one radical evil in the service. In 1861, he says, it gave us seventy-five captains, who, "with perhaps four exceptions, were totally unfit for service."

—The most interesting article in the *Quarterly Journal of Economics* for January is F. W. Taussig's history of the Southwestern strike of 1886, which, though a vivid account of this attempt on the part of organized labor, led by some of its worst advisers, to overawe a powerful corporation, might have taken a livelier coloring if Mr. Hoxie's merits in respect of vigor and resistance had been emphasized; if sharper criticism, too, had been directed against the Knights for their lawless actions in destroying life no less than property. The various points in the struggle, however, between the stationary employees of the Missouri Pacific Road, to whom the strike appears to have been confined, apart from the employees engaged in running the trains, are well brought out, and strengthened by racy quotations from the opinions of the strikers. The article is supplemented by Carroll D. Wright's "Historical Sketch of the Knights of Labor," which treats of the constitution of the order, without expression of criticism, favorable or unfavorable. The Knights are a body that concern us practically by their deeds, more than by their written constitution; but it is useful to have their inside history in language that their leaders approve, as is the case with this contribution. Their general constitution seems still to need formulating in some essential points, as it leaves the declaration of strikes to the local and district assemblies; but in the Missouri strike it is interesting to see the general officers, towards the last, throwing all the weight of the order in favor of the striking district assembly in Missouri. A. B. Hart's "The Disposition of our Public Lands" is a timely article, and will make a good text for collateral reading. The *Journal* also gives a criticism of Marshall's theory of value and distribution, by J. L. Laughlin; some objections to profit-sharing, by Richard Aldrich; and the French text of the progressive property tax of the Canton de Vaud, adopted in 1886.

—The *Bibliothèque Universelle*, commonly designated by its sub-title, *Revue Suisse*, is one of the oldest periodicals. It is published at Lausanne, and has now entered upon its ninety-second year, if we consider it, as we should, the continuation of the *Bibliothèque Britannique*, founded in 1795. It is interesting to go back to the beginning of the journal, in which science occupied a large place. In the first volume we find articles upon the then recent works, Arthur Young's 'Six Months' Tour,' Anne Radcliffe's 'Journey' and 'Mysteries of Udolpho.' After a few years the new review broadened its scope, and in 1816 it became the

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Bibliothèque Universelle. A new series was begun in 1836, but it was only in 1858 that the *Bibliothèque de Genève*, as it was then commonly called, was transferred to Lausanne, and took the form and dimensions it now has. Since then it has not ceased to hold a high place in periodical literature. Protestant in its general tone, it is not at all sectarian. It does much more than represent the intellectual life of French Switzerland. Such writers as Marc-Monnier and Eugène Rambert, and in previous days Vinet and Töpffer, are not mere local celebrities. They, and many other contributors of the *Revue Suisse*, can be placed in the first ranks of French writers. Under the able direction of M. Ed. Tallichet, since 1866 the *Bibliothèque Universelle* has become more than ever an excellent organ of general information for readers of French. Like other good periodicals in the same language, it presents a great variety of articles on current questions of general interest—history, political economy, travels, literature, etc. It publishes also continuous novels of high merit. One point that specially marks these is, that they can be placed in the hands of any one, as their moral tone is of the highest and purest character. Another feature of the *Revue* is the space devoted to the *chroniques*—that is, letters from Paris, England, Germany, Russia, etc., giving literary and other news of interest. In this respect it is, perhaps, the best periodical published in any language, and well justifies its title to the epithet of *universelle*. It is published monthly, as is also the *Archives des Sciences*, which may be considered its scientific supplement (Lausanne: Georges Bridel; New York: Christern; Boston: Schoenhof).

—The January number of the new volume of the *Bibliothèque Universelle* opens with an article on the "Vanderbilts and their Fortune." There is also a new serial story in the form of an autobiography signed Wladimir Korolenko. The director devotes twenty-four very interesting pages to his personal recollections of Eugène Rambert, who for nearly twenty years, until shortly before his recent death, was one of the most valuable literary contributors to the *Revue*. There are also the usual *chroniques*, all full of varied information; but the English correspondent is unjust to the editor of the 'Early Letters of Thomas Carlyle.' From all he says, the reader would infer that Prof. Norton had for the first time opened the packet of letters marked "to be burned," whereas some of the letters had already been printed by Mr. Froude. The short notice of the work which appeared in the Paris *Temps* of January 6 is in every way fairer and more intelligent. The same correspondent speaks of the American School at Athens with little knowledge. He says, among other things, speaking of the "munificence of the subscribers": "L'écueil n'est donc rien moins que le manque de fonds." Would that this were true! But it is seldom that the English correspondent deals with matters not English, and the *Chronique anglaise* is generally very good and reliable.

—To the Goethe student the past year was with two-fold reason an anniversary year. In 1786 Goethe entered upon his Italian journey, which marks such an epoch in his career; in the same year the publication of the first edition of his collected works was begun. This anniversary the Goethe Gesellschaft has celebrated by the publication of a handsome volume entitled 'Tagebücher und Briefe Goethes aus Italien an Frau v. Stein und Herder,' edited, with introduction and notes, by Prof. Erich Schmidt, and by the announcement of the coming definitive edition of Goethe's complete works. The volume of 'Diaries and Letters,' compiled from material discovered in the Goethe archives, furnishes us a part of the sources used by the poet in the composition of his 'Italienische Reise,' the three volumes of which appeared respectively in 1816, 1817, and 1829—a part only, for we know that the material for the second and third volumes was destroyed when the work was completed; but a comparison of these sources with the first volume, for which they formed the groundwork, throws many an instructive side-light on Goethe's mode of composition and upon this period of his life, both in the matter of his own development and of his relations to his friends. The myth of the existence of Frau v. Stein's letters to Goethe must collapse—so far at least as the present period is concerned—before Goethe's own statement of February 17, 1787: "Deine Briefe werden alle gleich gebrannt, wie wohl ungern. Doch dein Wille geschehe." The theory, too, which has been advanced by some critics, that Goethe's sudden departure for Italy was the result of a conscious determination on his part to break off his intimacy with Frau v. Stein, is no longer tenable, when we have such utterances as those of December 23, 1786, before us. Goethe is not seeking an estrangement; he fears even the possibility of one.

—In composing from his correspondence an account of these years of his life, Goethe has both added and omitted. Scenes merely outlined in his letters and left for oral communication are elaborated in his published work. The personal element, so largely eliminated in the latter, lends fresh interest to the former. On the road to Trent, he tells us in the 'Italienische Reise,' a poor woman appealed to him to take her child up into the carriage with him, because the hot pavement was scorching its feet. He did so, "but," he adds, "I could get nothing out of the child in any language." The version in his diary will probably accord with many a modern traveller's experience: "I spoke to it in Italian, but it replied that it did not understand German."

WILLIAM HENRY CHANNING.

Memoir of William Henry Channing. By Octavius Brooks Frothingham. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1886.

THERE are several ways of writing good biography. Of late the taste has been for self-effacement on the part of the biographer—the less of him the better; he should content himself with making such extracts from the letters and journals of his subject as will make his book as nearly autobiographic as may be. But this method has not always been the rage. When William Henry Channing's memoir of his uncle, Dr. Channing, appeared in 1848, the London *Spectator* critic objected to its method, which was distinctly that of self-effacement. He said: "The life, or even the mind, of a man is not properly exhibited by quotations from his writings, but by deductions from them. A biographer who acts in this way calls upon the reader to do his business." But Mr. Garrison, reviewing the book in the *Liberator*, said, "Nothing can be more admirable than the manner in which the author has discharged his sacred trust," though he went on to call the book "a life-like delineation of the inner and outward life of Channing as sketched by his own hand." The critics of to-day would generally side with Mr. Garrison. But, in truth, while there are excellent biographies written, as Dr. Channing's was, with zealous self-suppression, and others, such as Carlyle's 'Life of Sterling,' where the commentary is of vastly more importance than the text, there are still others in which comment free and full is united with copious selections from the subject's journals and correspondence and more deliberate intellectual expression. Mr. Frothingham's 'Memoir of William Henry Channing' is one of these. As such, it is much more satisfactory than any volume of mere selections could have been, made never so judiciously. But we could ill spare the selections that are here. They are copious, absolutely, and relatively to the editorial commentary that is made on them and the accompanying narrative which connects them together and which they confirm and illustrate. Little has been chosen that does not bring out the character or explain the fortunes of the man. The part which Mr. Frothingham has added is an immense addition to the interest and value of the book. His style was never happier than it is here. It is generally so full of energy and grace and charm that it seems as if he must have slept and dreamed an evil dream when he compared Channing to "a kite fastened by a cord to human heart-strings and drawing men upwards towards the empyrean." This is suggested as an improvement on Theodore Parker's saying that Channing hit the same nail every time, but never drove it in because the head was down. Mr. Frothingham's may be the truer thought, but certainly his simile is vile. It is so solitary that it startles us like thunder booming from an azure sky.

The matter of his narrative and comment is equally deserving with their manner of the warmest praise. He always keeps his footing. He is never swept away by the impetuous torrent of Channing's idealistic and enthusiastic temper. He is always critical, but he is always kind. The union of the frankest criticism with the liveliest sympathy is something rare, and it is very beautiful. Mr. Frothingham's difference from Channing intellectually and morally is very great. The latter was possessed; the former is self-possessed. The latter was always enthusiastic; the former, never. But it may be doubted whether if Channing could have had a "double" for his biographer, the impression of his excellence would have been so strong as it is now. It is true that now and then Mr. Frothingham cannot resist a smile at moments when Mr. Channing's levitation is the most remarkable. It is true that here and there he allows himself a shade of irony where the contrast of Channing's boundless hopes with his slender means and pitiful results is most apparent. But the smile is always kind and the irony is always touched with sorrow and regret. Mr. Frothingham's arrangement of his material is wholly admirable. After a series of chapters that detail the circumstances of Channing's childhood, youth, and education, the vicissitudes of his maturity, his wanderings to and fro, he has four concluding chapters on "The American," "The Preacher," "The Man of Letters," and "The Person," which summarize and criticise in a comprehensive and effective manner the leading characteristics of the man.

The value of William Henry Channing for the present generation is not isolated and intrinsic. It is representative. The title of Mr. Frothingham's opening chapter gives the proper point of view: "The Age and its Child." Channing was the child of his age, and, being so, he had his mother's features and her voice. It may be doubted whether any other person of the half century from 1830 to 1880 included in himself so many of the characteristic elements of that period of generous hopes, grave disappointments, vague aspirations, and concrete necessities of politics and war. Transcendentalism, socialism, anti-slavery—to each he abandoned himself simultaneously with an ardor and a passion not exceeded by the leaders on these several lines; nay, far exceeding Emerson's and Ripley's, and not less than Garrison's, though seeking channels wastefully apart from his or any great or central stream. It was, perhaps, because Channing was so much that he was never more. But it is like-

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lier that it was because, on whatever road he travelled, he always "hitched his wagon to a star," with the result that generally follows from such glorious harnessing—frequent upsetting and sometimes a general smash. A profound and passionate idealist, he was not "rich in saving common sense"; he did not appreciate the economy of secondary causes, the necessity of adapting means to ends. Nevertheless, the wonder grows, as we proceed with the story of his checkered and eventful life, that with so much of genuine power, with such rare and priceless gifts of mind and speech, his accomplishment was not more considerable. Of culture and intelligence, of energy and enthusiasm, there was enough in him to set up a dozen men of large success. His gift of speech was something wonderful. Let him and Phillips speak together and he made the more profound impression—the more profound, but the less definite. He carried you away, but you did not carry much away from him. With all his parts, the elements so mixed in him that he never was to any great extent a leader of men's thought or action. There is something pitiful in the instability and vagrancy of his career. In active life for more than fifty years after his graduation from the Cambridge Divinity School, he was a settled minister for less than half the time, and this in eight or nine different places, including Cincinnati, Rochester, Boston, New York, Washington, Liverpool, and London. For the remainder of the time he was always busy and always planning new adventures. His success was often great, but the desire of Mr. Evarts's office-seeker "to be somewhere else" continually recurred. He had not "staying quality."

His most successful settlement was in Washington during the civil war. There for once there was complete adjustment between the man and his environment. As minister of the Unitarian Church, converting its building into a hospital, as a worker in the Sanitary Commission, as Chaplain of the House of Representatives, his heart was wholly in his work. Seldom has the Chaplaincy of the House been accepted in a spirit so little perfunctory, and maintained in a manner so exalted and inspired. Some of his settlements were of a unique and striking character, little in harmony with the average Unitarian tradition. In Boston, New York, and Brooklyn they involved a free platform, with the usual consequence of garrulous cranks and silent sages. In Boston the church was a "Religious Union of Associationists," with an extremely novel ceremonial: "hands all around," a communion table set with bread, fruits, and a pitcher of water; all this, and the Gospel preached—a mixture of Fourier and Swedenborg, with a strong infusion of Channing's individual thought and feeling. There was always this. He could never be a retail dealer of any system of politics or religion or social reformation. This proof of personal strength was oftentimes a hindrance to his apparent usefulness. He could not go "with the multitude that kept holy day." He was obliged to go alone. In theology he was neither with the old-school Unitarians nor with the new. Greatly admiring Parker, he objected to his theology that his God was merely immanent and not influent. Greatly interested in Fourier and largely influential in converting Brook Farm from its original to a more Fourieristic form, he must add many things to Fourier and leave many out. Always an eager anti-slavery reformer, his scheme of emancipation was the impossible one of coöperation of the North and South in the work of manumission. Mr. Frothingham relates an interesting story of his impassioned advocacy of this darling scheme upon the platform of the Anti-Slavery Society.

Religious socialism was the dream that unified the variety and vagrancy of his experience. Wherever he might be, whatever his ecclesiastical standing, whatever the political situation, this dream was always cherished in his glowing heart. There is something exceedingly pathetic in his hoping against hope for its fulfilment; in his elastic rebound from the most cruel disappointments; in his readiness to hail some sign of its embodiment in this, that, or the other fresh development of the political or social situation. But there were few who were prepared to enter into his ideas. What he cared for most was what others, associated with him, generally cared for least—the sense of Universal Brotherhood; the Fatherhood of God and the fraternal Headship of Jesus being essentially concomitant. With the later developments of Socialism he must have found himself in little sympathy, actuated as they generally were, and are, by a more narrow and exclusive selfishness than the competition of the order they arraign. Channing's sense of human brotherhood was not a merely intellectual matter. His sympathies were exceedingly expansive. He was always seeking for points of agreement rather than points of difference. He took men and systems at their best. His friend James Freeman Clarke found in the other religions of the world so many fragments which all found in Christianity space for mutual adjustment and to spare. So did not he. He found in each and every one of them all of the germs of Christianity in process of development. He was bound to find this order and relation by the sympathy which was inseparable from his personality. But he was not one of those who can sympathize with Brahmans and Buddhists and not with next-door neighbors differing much or little from themselves. All sects and differences of opinion found room to meet and fraternize in his inclusive sympathy.

Here was another limitation of his practical efficiency. His sympathy was interpreted as "a mush of concession." There were fears that he would become a Romanist, or an Episcopalian—reasonable fears: he so idealized the older churches; he so desired to be identified with some great communion. But his critical rationalism, his ability to idealize Unitarianism, and his loyalty to his great uncle's name and fame, were counterbalancing influences, so that he was always a Unitarian, though not without vicissitudes and crises of belief, and a long period in early life when the German critics had "taken away his Lord and he knew not where they had laid him."

Mr. Frothingham's closing chapters are made up of those deductions which the *Spectator* critic missed in the biography of Dr. Channing by his nephew, William Henry. That on "The American" draws out the evidence of Channing's devotion to American interests and ideas. Fifteen times he crossed the Atlantic, always more glad to come this way than to go the other. Only in America was he at home. Before the war he was in a fever of unrest in England, so anxious was he to be in America and take his part in the great struggle. When the war began, he was soon "weary with forbearing and he could not stay." His exaggerated conception of Garfield was but the sign of a political idealism that was always seeking expression. Emerson's praise of him—"the evil time's sole patriot"—was an example of that "superlative" in which the poet occasionally indulged himself while objecting to it upon principle. The truth it overstated was that Channing was a patriot in every fibre of his brain and heart. Mr. Frothingham's chapter on "The Preacher" is both warm and just. Channing's preaching was so generally extemporaneous that the record of it is exceedingly imperfect. But if we had every word in print, it would convey no adequate idea of the effect produced, for it would not give the exaltation of his manner, his rapt and radiant air, the peculiar and impressive qualities of his rich and varied tones. Then, too, the hearer felt the man behind the words, was sure a man was there, and that he meant exactly what he said. After a chapter on his literary work—of which his memoir of his uncle Dr. Channing, his part of Margaret Fuller's memoir, and a memoir of his cousin Perkins, an admirable man, minister-at-large in Cincinnati, were the main features—Mr. Frothingham concludes with a chapter on "The Person." And when we have read this chapter, agreeing as it does with all that goes before, we feel that, whatever failure there was here, there was much of success also. A life so pure and true, so earnest and unselfish, must have had a great and lasting influence upon many of the hundreds with whom it mingled in its course from youth to age. His noble purity is hinted in the wish of Emerson that he should "christen" his children, who were "purer," he had said, "than any minister he knew." His piety was a phenomenon to the most orthodox of his acquaintances. His mind was steeped in mystic literature, and he gave the earliest hours of every day to lonely musing with à Kempis, Tauler, and their spiritual kin. But his morality was as rigid as his piety was fervent. If this memoir could be widely read, it might shame hundreds of men and women into a more unselfish, earnest, and devoted life.

DEAN PLUMPTRE'S TRANSLATION OF THE DIVINE COMEDY.

The Commedia and Canzoniere of Dante Alighieri. A new Translation, with Notes, Essays, and a Biographical Introduction. By E. H. Plumptre, D.D., Dean of Wells. In two volumes. Vol. I. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1887. 8vo, pp. cxxxi, 388.

THE attempt to make a translation of the 'Divine Comedy' in verse with the triple rhyme of the original, like that to square the circle, seems to possess a fascination for minds of a certain order. This is the fourth that has appeared in England in the course of the past five years. "I entered on the task," says Dean Plumptre, "in the hope that I should find the difficulty of reproducing the triple rhyme of the 'Commedia,' without unduly sacrificing faithfulness, not altogether insuperable." "Faithfulness" in this connection is a vague word. It may signify fidelity to the mere form of the poem, and to its literal meaning, or in a higher sense may imply the reproduction of its vital spirit and essential style. The Parthenon might be reproduced in granite with fidelity to its form, but the new structure would bear no resemblance in general effect to the marble building. So with these English versions of the 'Divine Comedy' in triple rhyme: the different nature of the language, the exigencies of the new material, present insuperable difficulties in the attempt at "fidelity"—make it, in a word, impossible to reproduce the quality and effect of Dante's poem. The concise, straightforward diction vanishes; the thought is no longer uttered by the inevitable word in the place ordained for it; the tone of the verse changing with each tone of feeling is lost; and the stroke of rhyme, for which so much is sacrificed, is no longer the pulse of life, but a mere mechanical beat. The voice of the poet comes back on the echo confused, hardly to be recognized.

We open Dean Plumptre's volume at random, and light on the following version of a passage which in the original is distinguished by nobility of style, simplicity and directness of diction, grave dignity of effect:

"Meantime a voice I heard which sounded so:
'Give honor to the poet loftiest;
His shade returns that left short while ago.'
After the voice was silent and at rest,
Four mighty shades I saw towards me move,
With looks that showed as neither pained nor blest.

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Then spake to me the Master whom I love:
'Look thou on him who walks with sword in hand,
Whose place before the three his rank doth prove.
See Homer, sovran poet of our band;
Horace comes next, for biting satire known;
Ovid the third, and Lucan last doth stand.
Because with me they all are so far one,
Sharing the name that one voice uttered clear,
They do me honor; well that deed is done.'"

It is with a sense of the vain effort and wasted ingenuity of the translator that one recalls the original:

"Intanto voce fu per me udita:
Onorate l'altissimo poeta!
L'ombra sua torna, ch'era dipartita.
Poichè la voce fu restata e queta,
Vidi quattro grand' ombre a noi venire:
Semblanza avevan nè trista nè lieta.
Lo buon Maestro cominciò a dire:
Mira colui con quella spada in mano,
Che vien dinanzi a tre, si come sire.
Quegli è Omero poeta sovrano;
L'altro è Orazio satiro che viene;
Ovidio è il terzo, e l'ultimo è Lucano.
Perocchè ciascun meco si conviene
Nel nome, che sonò la voce sola,
Fannomi onore, e di ciò fanno bene."

Let us translate these verses literally: "Meanwhile a voice was heard by me, 'Honor the loftiest poet! his shade returns that had departed.' When the voice had ceased and was quiet, I saw four great shades coming to us; they had a semblance neither sad nor glad. The good master began to say: 'Look at him with that sword in hand, who comes before the three even as lord;' he is Homer, the sovran poet. The next who comes is Horace the satirist, Ovid is the third, and the last is Lucan. Since each with me is suited with the name that the solitary voice sounded, they do me honor, and in that do well."

Here the order of the words is scarcely changed, for the Italian verse is as direct as the English prose. The subtle interfusion of sound with sense, the effect of rhythm and rhyme in heightening the imaginative impression, are indeed gone from the translation, but in point of essential "fidelity" it comes nearer to the original than any translation can do in which the rhyme is made the rudder of the verse. In spite of the exactions of his rhyme, there is rarely a needless or forced word in Dante's lines, and seldom such an inversion of the natural order of the words as to interfere with the plainness of the diction and the easy flow of meaning. Directness, simplicity, and naturalness are the marked characteristics of Dante's literary style. These qualities give to it distinction and permanence of effect. As a work of literature the 'Divine Comedy' can no more become antiquated than the 'Iliad,' and for the same reason, that its style conforms, not to a transient taste or fashion, but to the nature of things. Even in the highest flights of the imagination, in the vision of divine mysteries, in the relation of supersensual experiences which no words can describe, the style remains direct, plain, natural.

It is a vain hope fully to transfer these qualities into a versified translation; and yet without them there can be no real "fidelity" to the original. In his 'Essay on Translating Homer,' Mr. Arnold selects as a specimen of "the grand style" these verses:

"Lascio lo fele, e vo pei dolci pomi
Promessi a me per lo verace Duca;
Ma fino al centro pria convien ch' io tomi."

"I leave the gall and I go for the apples of sweetness promised unto me by my faithful Guide; but far as the centre it behooves me first to fall." Dr. Plumptre gives these verses as follows, certainly falling in the last of them as far as the centre:

"I leave the gall and seek the pleasant fruit
Which my true Leader promiseth to me,
But first I must plunge down to earth's deep root."

Let us take another instance of the grand style:

"I'aveva già il mio viso nel suo fitto,
Ed ei s'ergea col petto e con la fronte
Come avesse lo inferno in gran dispitto."

"I had already fixed my gaze on his, and he lifted himself up with his breast and with his front as though he had hell in great contempt." Do the following verses render this?

"Already had I on him closely gazed,
And he with breast and neck before me rose
As though in scorn Hell was by him appraised."

But one example is as good as twenty. Dr. Plumptre has failed in an undertaking in which no one could succeed. The adventure will be doubtless tried by others; but it will not be tried by any who know the true nature of Dante's poem, or who justly reverence the loftiest poet.

Dean Plumptre's translation is accompanied by an elaborate life of Dante and by numerous notes to each canto of the poem. Both these portions of his work show diligence, wide reading, and an intelligent use of the leading authorities. The historical comment is generally correct and sufficient; and the notes on difficult and disputed passages and the explanation of the symbolism and allegory of the poem are, for the most part, sensible and moderate. But in both Life and Comment there is a tendency to suggest fanciful hypotheses in regard to matters concerning which nothing is known, that sometimes leads to very questionable conclusions. Thus, for instance, opening the volume again at random, we find on p. 104: "The date of his (Michael Scott's) death *makes it possible* that Dante may have met him." Roger Bacon's opinion "*may have* influenced Dante's judgment." "*Possibly* it had vexed the soul of the poet." On p. 105: "*May we think* of Marco Polo as taking the poet to see" the arsenal of Venice? On p. 106: this grotesqueness was "*probably* reproduced"; the condemnation "was *perhaps* emphasized." And so on very frequently. But to take an instance of somewhat more importance than these incidental *possiblys* and *perhapses*, and one to which Dr. Plumptre more than once recurs, we turn to the passage in the tenth canto of Hell, where Cavalcante Cavalcanti inquires of Dante concerning his son Guido, Dante's chief friend: "'If through this blind prison thou goest through loftiness of genius, my son, where is he? and why is he not with thee?' And I to him, 'By myself I do not come; he who waits yonder leads me through here; whom perchance your Guido held in disdain.'"

The words which Dante puts into the mouth of Cavalcante bear witness to the intimacy of the poet's friendship with Cavalcante's son, and to Dante's high estimate of Guido's genius. The words indicate that their union was such that where Dante is, Cavalcante had a right to expect to see his son, and that if Dante's genius was sufficient to lead him through the blind prison, that of Guido was not unequal to the same difficult task. We have no means for determining the precise significance of Dante's allusion to Guido's lack of regard for Virgil—whether the words are to be interpreted literally as implying that Guido's preference was for other poets, or whether Guido had failed to draw those loftier lessons from the ideal Virgil which served for the guidance of Dante through Hell. Taken in connection with the rest of the passage, they afford no indication that there had been a breach in the friendship of Dante and Guido.

Dr. Plumptre's note on the passage is as follows:

"The mention of Guido identifies the spectre with Cavalcante Cavalcanti, the father of Guido, one of the poet's earliest and dearest associates, the 'first of his friends,' a poet like himself, noble, brave, thoughtful, and refined. The two had been as David and Jonathan. Guido's father wonders at seeing Dante without him. And now the one speaks of the other after his death (Guido died in the autumn of 1300, after the assumed date of the vision, but before any of it was written) in a tone of coldness, and places his father in Hell as an unbeliever. What had caused the breach? If it is impossible to construct a complete *apologia*, we may at least trace the workings of the poet's mind. The father was a materialist, an 'epicurean,' and the son may have seemed to have caught something of the taint. His marriage with Farinata's daughter would tend in the same direction. When Virgil came to be to Dante the guide to a higher life, to a truer theory of the Divine government, Guido, it may be, would none of him, and the breach between the two friends was therefore something more than a quarrel on a point of taste, Guido preferring the Provençal poets to the author of the '*Æneid*.' The change has its parallel in the altered feelings, let us say, with which a convert to or from Romanism or Protestantism looks on the friends whom he has left. What adds to the pain with which we read the whole story is that Dante, in the two months in which he held office as one of the Priori in 1300, had felt himself compelled to banish Guido and others, both Neri and Bianchi, as disturbers of the peace of Florence, to Sarazana; that his friend caught a fever there, and died in the autumn of the same year."

The inelegance of the English in which this note is written befits the venturesome character of its inferences and assertion. The banishment of Guido was not an act for which Dante was alone responsible; there is no evidence that he had any share in it, save that he was one of the priors when Guido and a large number of the party to which Guido belonged were—as Villani, the most trustworthy authority in regard to the facts reports—banished to Serrezzano. The leaders of the opposite party, conspirators against the peace of the city, had been fined and banished, and then, *per levare ogni sospetto*, "to remove every suspicion" of unfairness, Guido and his associates were also sent out of the city. The act was one in which Dante may have borne his part without the slightest indifference or wrong to Guido, and without the least break in the friendship between them.

In his Life of Dante, Dean Plumptre changes his inference that the friendship between Guido and Dante had been broken, into the statement of it as a fact. He says: "The two were as David and Jonathan, Orestes and Pylades, in their intimacy, *till they were divided* by their different estimate of Virgil, in itself but as a 'little rift,' but the symbol of a difference in thought, feeling, creed, morals, that went down to the foundations of life, and widened into a chasm." This is surely a hazardous assertion, seeing that the only warrant for it is the phrase "whom perhaps your Guido held in disdain."

The tendency, illustrated by this example, to draw illegitimate inferences from facts, and to turn suppositions into statements of fact, detracts from the value of Dean Plumptre's work, and makes it an unsafe guide for the otherwise uninformed student. Many of his hypotheses are ingenious; some of them may be sound; some of them are extravagant. The critical student, seeking for solid information, is wearied by guesswork. An amusing instance of the Dean's fondness for the pleasing speculations of his fancy occurs in connection with his mention of the fact that the Emperor Henry VII., in 1309, at Constance,

"formally recognized the comparative independence of the three Swiss cantons, Uri, Schwyz, and Unterwalden, as holding immediately from the Emperor, and so released them, as far as his action went, from the tyranny of the House of Hapsburg, against which they had risen under Melchtal, Stauffacher, and Fürst. Such an act was, it need hardly be said, an example of the

'*Parcere subjectis et debellare superbos*'

of Dante's great instructor (Æn. vi, 854), which he quotes in Mon. ii, 7, as part of his ideal of a righteous ruler. The story of William Tell, which connects itself with that revolt, may be historical or legendary. It will be welcome, I think, to many students of Dante to learn that they may legitimately connect his name with the struggle for freedom with which it* has become the symbol. If Dante, as I conjecture, was at Constance, he may have met there the three great patriot heroes of Switzerland."

It would be difficult to carry pure inference much further than this. Because an Emperor on whom Dante set his hopes for Italy asserted

*"It" must here refer, not to Dante's name, but to the story of Tell; the Dean's English is a little careless.

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the rights of the empire over three Swiss cantons which had revolted against the House of Hapsburg, Dante's name may be legitimately connected with the struggle for freedom in Switzerland!

There are questions of more importance than this opened by some of Dr. Plumptre's suppositions—such, for example, as his view that Dante experienced what he calls a "conversion crisis" at Rome, at Easter, in 1300 (Life, pp. lxiv, lxxvii); his insistence on Dante's influence in shaping the Papal policy (Id. lxxiv, lxxx); his argument as to the importance of Dante's relations to the Emperor Henry VII., which concludes with the assertion that "through him [Dante] that life [Henry VII.'s] had been brought to an untimely end" (Id. cix). But to discuss these doubtful matters properly, and to show how preponderant the weight of evidence is, in each instance, against Dean Plumptre's conclusions, would require more space than is here at our disposal.

The reading of Dante is just now more or less the fashion, and Dr. Plumptre's work falls in very well with the occasion. But the serious student of the poet will revert to sounder methods of interpretation, and less ambitious performances.

PRIMITIVE RACES.

Die Naturvölker. Missverständnisse, Missdeutungen und Misshandlungen. Von Dr. Wilhelm Schneider. Paderborn und Munster: Ferdinand Schöningh. 1885.

Dr. Schneider evidently has a fancy for popular subjects and alliterative or taking titles, and with it a talent for making his books successful. His work on 'Modern Spiritualism: its Facts, Fictions, and Fancies' (as we may venture to English the title, 'Der Neuere Geisterglaube: Thatsachen, Täuschungen und Theorien'), has reached its second and much enlarged edition. The same good fortune has attended his volume on 'Recognition in the Future Life' ('Das Wiedersehen im anderen Leben'); and it requires no special gift of prevision to foretell that his latest work on 'The Primitive Peoples,' and the "misconceptions, misrepresentations, and misdealings" of which they have been the victims, will be equally favored. We are not expressly informed in the case of this work, as we are in that concerning future recognition, that the author writes with the approval of his ecclesiastical superiors (*mit kirchlicher Approbation*), but we may take it for granted that, as a faithful son of the Church, he would not do otherwise. The result is, that we have an interesting work which good Catholics, and indeed the orthodox public in general, may read with pleasure and instruction, but which students of science will be apt to pronounce somewhat one-sided and superficial.

The work is in two parts, each being intended to deal with what the writer considers an erroneous theory respecting the primitive or uncivilized races. In the first division of his work, the author undertakes to show, in opposition to the views of Rousseau and his followers, that "the primitive man is not the ideal man," and that the noble savage is a fiction of poetry and benevolent theory. This error can hardly be supposed to exist at the present day; but if it is extant anywhere, the author has certainly disposed of it effectually. He traverses the entire field of research, examines the evidence of historians and observers in every age and country, and brings back from all quarters the same dolorous report. In Australia and New Guinea, in Polynesia, in Mexico, and America generally, throughout Africa and Central Asia, the uncultivated races are everywhere shown to be shockingly cruel, stupid, and sensual. Cannibalism, human sacrifices, infanticide, torture of captives, inhumanity to the aged and the sick, to women and to slaves, barbarous practices enforced by terrors of witchcraft, fetishism and other senseless delusions, polygamy and the grossest sensuality, are the prevalent vices of savage life. The pleasant fables of primitive innocence are dispelled as completely as the stories of giants and pigmies, of Amazons, and of "men whose heads do grow beneath their shoulders," which amused our credulous forefathers.

The second and larger portion of the work deals with the opposite error of the present day, and undertakes to show that "uncivilized man is not an ape-man, not the pristine man (*Urmensch*) of the Development theory." The ingenious explorer now takes what we may call the "back-track." The magician reverses his wand. Hey, presto, change! The shield revolves and shows us its golden side. Once more the author goes over the extensive field, from Australia and the Pacific Islands to Africa, America, and the deepest recesses of Asia, and shows us, by the same indubitable evidence of the most trustworthy observers, that savages are found everywhere who possess all the virtues and intelligence that are deemed by some to be the highest outcome of civilization. They are hospitable, generous, and honest. They display strong domestic affections. They are industrious, intelligent, and wonderfully quick to learn. The author minutely reviews all the accounts which have been collected by Sir John Lubbock and other writers, of barbarous races reported to be totally devoid of religious belief, and shows that the reports are in every instance without good foundation. With equal industry he sifts all the stories which are told of savage tribes living in what is euphemistically described as "communal marriage," or, in other words, in promiscuous intercourse, and finds them everywhere utterly baseless. He shows at the same time that civilized men, in their dealings with savages, have been guilty of cruelties quite as shocking and excesses as vile as any that can be laid to the charge of their victims.

If the apparent inconsistency between the two portions of Dr. Schneider's work seems at first view somewhat whimsical and paradoxical, its purpose and plan, as they become gradually evident, prove to be sufficiently ingenious and effective. His object, of course, is to show that man, in all states of society and stages of culture, is everywhere the same being. The adage of the platitudinous sage, celebrated by Irving, is found to be everywhere true: "Man is a compound of wisdom and folly," of good and evil, as much in New Guinea and Central Africa as in Germany or New England, and neither more nor less. The difference between the savage and civilized races is shown to be mainly a difference in knowledge, and not necessarily a difference either of character or of capacity. On this point, the proof furnished by Dr. Schneider's elaborate treatise may be fairly styled complete; and if the mode of presenting it is odd, and savors somewhat of the bookmaker's artifice, it will doubtless have the effect of making his work more attractive to the majority of readers.

For students of science, the other aim which the author professes to have in view, and through which he doubtless hopes to win ecclesiastical approval of his work, will seem a grave defect, and will raise a question, if not of the author's sincerity, at least of his perspicacity. It is difficult to understand how a writer of Dr. Schneider's intelligence can seriously suppose that by showing the distance between savages and apes to be as great as that which removes civilized man from the same brutal species, he renders the theory of evolution less probable. The true proofs of development are not found in any such casual and external resemblances as Lubbock and other writers of his class have endeavored to trace. Dr. Schneider has had occasion repeatedly to cite the opinion of Darwin himself in opposition to the crude notions of his overhasty followers. But he omits to remark that the real strength of the doctrine is to be sought in very different and far profounder evidences—in the facts of comparative anatomy and in the revelations of embryology. If every human being, from the first appearance of man on the earth, had possessed the intellect of a Plato, the virtues of a St. Bernard, and the form of an Antinous, the belief of those who maintain the doctrine of evolution would be no less decided than it is at present.

In justice to the author's co-religionists, it should be said that the hostility of the Roman Catholic Church to the doctrine of evolution is apparently assumed by him without good grounds. Prof. Mivart, himself a firm Catholic, cites numerous expressions from ecclesiastical authorities of the highest rank—including St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas, and Suarez—which not merely countenance, but in a remarkable manner affirm and advocate, this doctrine. Tyndall himself has not declared and maintained the doctrine of potentiality in creation more distinctly or more decidedly than St. Augustine in his work on Genesis. The mistake of Galileo's persecution was proper to the times, and not to the Church. In all ages, and in every country, ignorance and not religion has been the enemy of science. At this day, hostility to the latest theories is stronger in Protestant Tennessee than in Catholic Austria or Italy. It is to be regretted that a writer so able and enlightened as Dr. Schneider should have allowed the spectre of a defunct bigotry to alarm him to such an extent as seriously to impair the value of his painstaking and, in many respects, admirable work.

The Life of Benjamin F. Wade. By A. G. Riddle. Cleveland, O.: Wm. W. Williams. 1886.

This Life of Wade takes its place beside the equally modest lives of Corwin and of Giddings—all men of whom greatness has been freely predicated, and who yet are exhibited, chronicled, and eulogized by their several admiring biographers in the scanty dimensions of a small duodecimo. In the case of Wade, materials other than Congressional documents were very largely wanting, for he destroyed his own papers ruthlessly, and Mr. Riddle has not essayed the task of abstracting the body of his speeches, or, indeed, giving a strictly orderly account of his political career. He has not even made the book an organic whole. It is composed of a series of papers contributed to the *Magazine of Western History*, republished without editing, and with not a few typographical and other errors. Nor is it a pure biography, consisting largely as it does of a history of the times, or what passes for that in Mr. Riddle's mind. In fact, we have found our interest pretty evenly divided between the subject of this work and the writer of it, who unconsciously portrays himself quite as distinctly as his hero, and perhaps as attractively. The rambling character of Mr. Riddle's narrative—not without its charm—is not, we feel sure, the result of his years, any more than are the strange lapses in his chronology. What he calls the "sketchy thread of the incipient struggle against dominant slavery," *alias* his account of the rise of the anti-slavery movement, is amusing, not to say laughable. We will give a single example. The first anti-slavery speech of Mr. Wade's here reported was made in the winter of 1838-39, in the Ohio Senate. It was not remarkable for radicalism on the question of slavery, however true it may be that "it was a long stride in ad-

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vance of public opinion then on the [Western] Reserve." But to say that it became "one of the sources of education, argument, and influence ere the great anti-slavery cause was in the milk" (p. 144), and that "it is to be remembered there was then no source or supply of anti-slavery arguments" (p. 136), is simply amazing. Has Mr. Riddle never heard of the "anti-slavery arguments" issued by the American Anti-Slavery Society in 1835, taken violently from the post-office in Charleston in July of that year, and made a bonfire of—with the approval of Jackson and his Postmaster-General? He mentions the *Liberator* on p. 130; it was launched in 1831, and nobody ever accused it of holding back anti-slavery arguments until after Mr. Wade had made his speech—in a State, by the way, whose organized anti-slavery societies outnumbered those of any other, and in which an anti-slavery revolt among the students of Lane Seminary, Cincinnati, occurred in 1834, with far-reaching results. Lovejoy was thought to have uttered a few arguments on the same side, and he had been hounded to death in 1837. But we must apologize for dwelling on so obvious an error, in which the panegyrist as well as the historian is at fault.

The most notable incident in Mr. Wade's professional career as related by Mr. Riddle is his adhering to his own first decision after it had been overruled by the Supreme Court of Ohio, and had come up before him on mandate. "'But, your Honor, the Supreme Court reversed your former judgment!' exclaimed the now rebeaten counsel. 'Yes, so I have heard. I will give them a chance to get right,' was the quiet reply." And "the Court, instead of attaching him for contempt, reversed itself and affirmed his last judgment." The sole original document of value brought to light by Mr. Riddle is the Memorandum signed by Simon Cameron, B. F. Wade, and Z. Chandler, May 26, 1874, recording a league on the part of these three men, "during the two or three years preceding the outbreak of the slaveholders' rebellion," to challenge their Southern colleagues for any gross abuse of Republicans as such, and "to carry the quarrel into a coffin." Finally, for what concerns Mr. Wade, his pedigree is decidedly interesting. He was a descendant of the Bradstreets, Dudleys, Uphams, and Wigglesworths of Massachusetts, but missed the poetical inheritance of Anne Bradstreet and Michael Wigglesworth as he did the Calvinistic theology of the latter ancestor. In other respects he showed many of the Puritan traits.

Mr. Riddle's style is very individual—rough, not always easy to parse, habitually careless of the predicate; but terse, epigrammatic, picturesque, sometimes tender and almost poetic. Pithy reflections abound, especially in regard to his own and Wade's profession. None, he says (p. 73), is so uncertain as the law. "Of all who study it, 20 per cent. is a fair estimate of those who succeed." He is more than just to his legal brethren when he says (p. 84): "I utterly repudiate Lord Brougham's rule—as do American lawyers generally. A lawyer's first duty, over and above his client, is to the law." Impressive is the statement (p. 104) that—

"During nearly the whole of the late war, the Supreme Court of the United States sat serenely adjudging the old cases involving old and well-established rules, in contemplation of law, oblivious of the new and awful issues discussed and decided in the red forum of battle. They were there settled ere the momentous constitutional and legal issues springing from war reached it, for which there were no rules, no precedents."

The following is also fresh and suggestive (p. 38). It refers to the early part of the century:

"Teaching as an art, an applied science, was unknown in the common schools. . . . One thing was inevitable under this arid, stepmother process. The stupid, dull-minded boys grew up dull, stupid men, with undeveloped rudimentary faculties, and remained such through life. . . . The difference between the naturally endowed would at once be increased and widened, and the better gifted would become, as they were, an intellectual aristocracy. Nothing in our world is so essentially democratic as a real *common* education. Now, men say there are no really great men, while the fact is, the common—the average—is so much elevated that the difference is much less between it and the highest, so that the great men have seemed to disappear."

We should like to quote the whole of a passage concerning the melancholy fascination which Washington life has for those who have passed any considerable time in the midst of it. "Men distinguished in Congress return," says Mr. Riddle, citing instances, "seek subordinate places—haunt the capital, like souls whose bodies are buried but will not depart" (p. 290). And there are some clever portraits or impressionist sketches of public characters—like this, of Sumner (p. 173): "He was always English in his air, and his presence produced a solitude"; or this of Commodore Wilkes (p. 253): "After the war I came to know him well—of large frame, tall, grim, forbidding of aspect, with an aptitude for trouble in business and property matters." But our space admonishes us.

Mural Painting. By Frederic Crowninshield. Illustrated. Boston: Ticknor & Co. Small 4to, pp. 155.

THE papers which make up this book appeared first in the *American Architect*. After an introductory chapter, there are essays on the Encaustic and Tempera of the Ancients, on The Wall (its proper make and preparation for painting): on Modern Encaustic; on Fresco (several chapters, interrupted, as it were, by an episodical account of Byzantine painting of other sorts than fresco); on Oil-Painting, Water-Glass, and "The Education and Qualifications of the Mural Painter." At the end of the volume are notes, in which some thoughts and some citations not admitted to the pages of the journal find their proper place. Twelve full-page illustrations, and twice as many printed with the text, are scattered through the volume, and the former are sometimes placed without especial appropriateness; but a rather full account of them comes at the last of all, and is very readable and very much in place. There is, in the text, a good deal of repetition and a visible lack of careful arrangement. There is no index at all, and at the beginning only a list of chapters, so that it would be difficult to find in haste what one might need the most. These faults, except the absence of the index, are the result of the publication in separate essays in a monthly journal. This is stated in the preface, and it is quaintly assumed that no remodelling of the book, or thorough revision of the matter, was practicable, or, at least, to be expected. And yet that is what the public had a right to expect. A practitioner in decorative art, one who has had, as is notorious, exceptional advantages of study, residence, and observation in Europe, and who for seven or eight years now has been at work at home, has done a good thing in giving us this book of sound doctrine, well-based information, and well-matured advice; it is much to be regretted that he has not considered the form as well as the *fond*, and put his valuable book into available shape.

For the book, in spite of all, is extremely valuable. Those who are made miserable by poor workmanship, walls that settle and yield, and plastering that cracks and peels, and those who would fain have some *painting* done instead of pasting paper over their wall-surfaces, or bothering with costly and inconvenient hangings of silk or stuff, will find the soundest advice about practical matters. Those who are prepared to risk something, and paint in despite of constructional weaknesses and danger of downfall or decay, will find most unmistakably sound views about the artistic questions that come up. Those who are interested in the archæological part of the business, and long for a clear account of the painting done in old times, have clearly expressed statements as to that, in which there is care taken to distinguish between what is known and what is only surmised or inferred.

Thirty years ago it was rather the thing to publish articles and books containing the elementary principles of decoration and its many correlative arts and sciences. Of late that custom has been nearly forgotten. It seems to be assumed that all the general principles have been laid down, all the theories proved or disproved, all the facts ascertained. Now, even were that the case indeed, still each generation needs to have its own lessons taught to it. And not only that, but every truth, no matter how well established, needs to be reiterated. Not only are we to indulge ourselves in the beautiful twice or three times repeated—δὶς καὶ τρὶς τὰ καλὰ λέγειν, as Plato has it—but we are to contemplate and to preach the well-ascertained fact two and three times over, and explain it and develop it and elucidate it, for our own and for others' benefit. This is what Mr. Crowninshield has done; he has taken up again and restated the sound old maxims which this new generation is really in danger of forgetting, so taken-for-granted are they—much as Dr. Holmes's fancied clergyman was suffering for want of theological instruction, having preached twice a day for thirty years or so and never heard a sermon in all that time. But, more than this, Mr. Crowninshield has been able to hold up the old truths in new lights; for the past quarter-century has done wonders in the way of research and comparison, and not an old maxim of them all but takes new meaning and new illustration from the accurate investigation of modern times—from a larger knowledge and a more extended comparison of facts. Success, then, to this edition, and a consequent new edition with new matter, and put into more perfect and permanent shape, is our sincere wish, for the good of the public even more than of the author.

The Standard Oratorios. Their Stories, their Music, and their Composers. By George P. Upton. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.

MUSIC-LOVERS are under a new obligation to Mr. Upton for this companion to his 'Standard Operas'—two books which deserve to be placed on the same shelf with Grove's and Riemann's musical dictionaries. In listening to oratorios, a knowledge of the underlying text is not so essential as in opera, because oratorios are more commonly sung in a language familiar to the audience, and because the musical interest largely predominates over the poetic or textual interest. Nevertheless, even an oratorio gives much more satisfaction to those who know and heed its text than to those who look upon it as music alone;—and-this-is-true especially of modern oratorio, in which the influence of opera and music-drama is felt in many ways. Mr. Upton's book opens with a brief account of the development of oratorio, from the time when even dancing played a part in it, and the participants introduced all sorts of profane burlesque, such as tying the wings of geese on their shoulders to personate angels, braying donkey-like responses to the intonations of the priests, etc. Then the gradual progress is traced in the works of Italian composers, leading up to the highest stages in the works of Bach and Handel, which are fully and ably analyzed, the author's method being every-

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where to point out beauties rather than dwell on shortcomings. Much space is devoted to modern composers and their works, including Berlioz's, Verdi's, and Brahms's Requiems. Dvořák's Stabat Mater, Liszt's "Elizabeth" and "Christus," Rubinstein's "Tower of Babel" and "Paradise Lost," J. K. Paine's "St. Peter," etc. A short biography in each case precedes the analysis of the text, and remarks on the principal musical numbers are interspersed in language as free as possible from technicalities, for the author states that his work "has been prepared for the general public rather than for musicians." In looking over the list of composers and the dates of their sacred compositions, one is struck by the fact that not a few musicians seem to agree with Handel that "sacred music is best suited to a man descending in the vale of years." The last twenty pages contain an historic sketch of sacred music in America, from the jingling tunes of quaint old Billings and the Puritan psalm-singers to the musical conventions and latter-day choral festivals and paid church choirs.

Exposé Sommaire des Théories Transformistes de Lamarck, Darwin et Haeckel. Par Arthur Vianna de Lima. Paris. 1886. Pp. 523.

THIS volume gives a very readable account of evolution from the standpoint of the extreme materialistic school. The first chapter treats at great length of the mechanical and monistic theory of vital phenomena. Living things are treated as matter combined in certain ways and exhibiting certain phenomena. These phenomena, however complex, are held to be due to the matter of which organisms are composed, and hence, as life cannot be supposed to come out of dead matter, all matter is assumed to have life. Other chapters deal with the survival of the fittest, the struggle for existence, the origin of species and their mutability, and the explanation of teleology which the modern views afford. A good summary is given of the chief facts adduced by Darwin, as well as others furnished by recent research, while the explanation of the facts is clearly and forcibly set forth. The book is somewhat diffuse, but the writer is well acquainted with the subject, and, though somewhat dogmatic, is a good representative of the more advanced Continental Darwinian school.

Perry's Saints; or the Fighting Parson's Regiment in the War of the Rebellion. By James M. Nichols. Boston: D. Lothrop & Co.

WE have here the regimental history of the Forty-Eighth New York Volunteers. The regiment was stationed along the Carolina coast for the first three years of the war, and saw but little active service; but in 1864 it was transferred to the Army of the Potomac in time to take part in the battle of Cold Harbor, and the engagements around Petersburg. It was subsequently moved back to North Carolina, and participated in the assault and capture of Fort Fisher. Its history is not greatly different from that of other regiments, except in the character of its first Colonel, the Rev. James H. Perry. He was a graduate of West Point, who offered his services to the Texan Government just after his graduation. At the battle of San Jacinto he succeeded in killing a Mexican officer whom he thought to be Santa Anna. On finding out his mistake he was overwhelmed with remorse, left the Texan service immediately, and entered the ministry. The news of the bombardment of Fort Sumter caused him to take up his sword again, and to remain in the service until he died of fever contracted in the Southern swamps. His was not the only case of this kind, but it affords another illustration of the moral forces which lay behind the great uprising of the North in 1861.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Arawiyah, Al. Tales of the Caliph. London: T. Fisher Unwin.
Bentley, Prof. R. Physical Botany: An Abridgment, by Eliza A. Youmans. D. Appleton & Co. $1.40.
Bigelow, J. The Complete Works of Benjamin Franklin. Vol. I. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $5.
Bishop, P. P. American Patriotism: An Essay. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 75 cents.
Browning, R. Parleyings with Certain People of Importance in their Day. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. $1.25.
Cantacuzène-Altieri, Princess Olga. Irène. Frederick Warne & Co. 35 cents.
Carroll, L. Alice's Adventure Under Ground. Being a *fac-simile* of the Original MS. Book afterwards developed into Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. Illustrated. Macmillan & Co. $1.50.
Coleridge, C. R. A Near Relation: A Novel. Harper's Franklin Square Library. 20 cents.
Cooke, Rose Terry. Happy Dodd: or, She Hath Done What She Could. Boston: Ticknor & Co. $1.50.
Edwards, J. Differential Calculus, with Applications and Numerous Examples. An Elementary Treatise. Macmillan & Co. $2.75
Fearing, Lillian Blanche. The Sleeping World, and Other Poems. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co. $1.
Feuillet, O. The Romance of a Poor Young Man. Wm. S. Gottsberger.
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